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YEAR ONE
B A T M A N

SHADOW OF THE
BAT



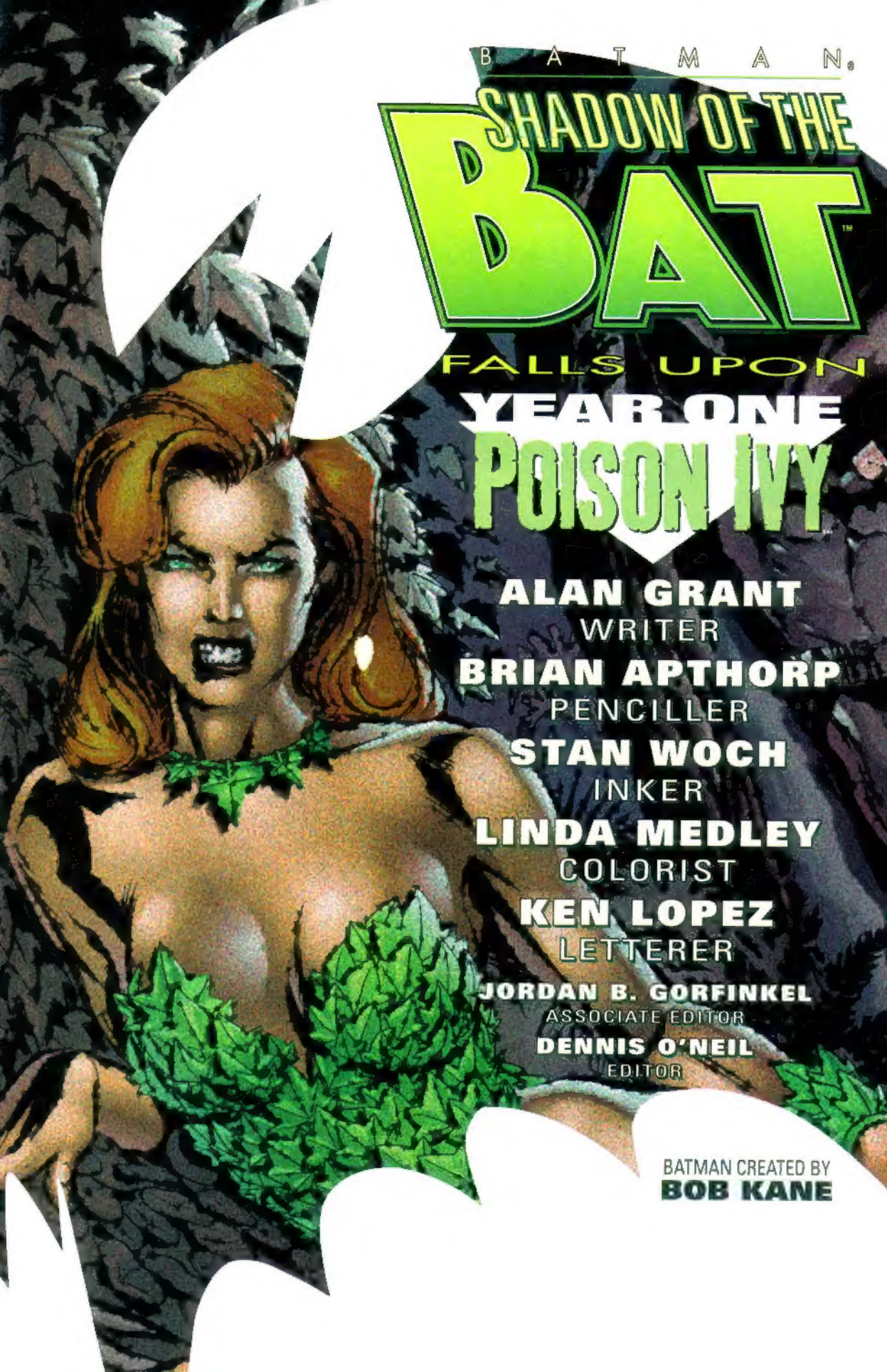
GRANT
APTHORP
WOCH

DIRECT SALES

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A detailed illustration of Poison Ivy, a character from the Batman universe. She has long, wavy, reddish-brown hair and is wearing a green, leafy, strapless dress. She has a menacing expression with green eyes and a wide, toothy grin. The background is dark and textured, resembling a forest floor or a cave. The title 'SHADOW OF THE BAT' is prominently displayed in large, green, stylized letters. Below it, the subtitle 'FALLS UPON YEAR ONE POISON IVY' is written in smaller, green, block letters. The credits for the creative team are listed on the right side of the cover, including the writer, penciller, inker, colorist, letterer, associate editor, and editor. At the bottom right, it states 'BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE'.

B A T M A N.

SHADOW OF THE **BAT**

FALLS UPON
YEAR ONE
POISON IVY

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BATMAN CREATED BY
BOB KANE

CHAPTER 1

LOOK...BUT YOU BETTER NOT TOUCH!

YOU CAN'T
DO THIS! YOU
CAN'T LEAVE
ME HERE!

WHAT IF
THE POLE
SNAPS?

DON'T
WORRY. THE
GROUND WILL
BREAK YOUR
FALL!

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JOE THE
UNDERTAKER'LL
ICE ME IF I SAY
A WORD!

YOU
THINK I
WON'T?

YOU'RE *BLUFFING*--
TRYING TO *TRICK*
ME! YOU WOULDN'T
KILL ME IN COLD
BLOOD!

HAPPY TRAILS.

WAIT.

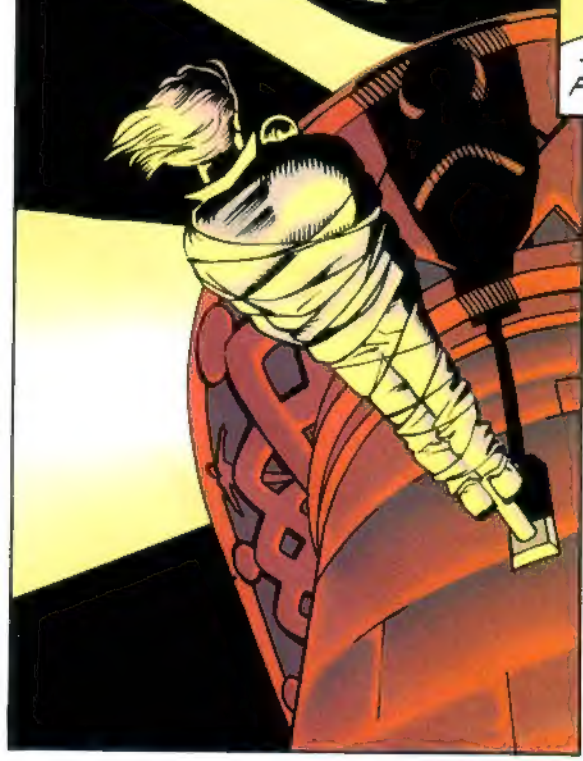
I'LL TELL
YOU! JUST GET
ME DOWN FROM
HERE!



TALK
FIRST.

HE'S BEEN WEARING
THE CAPE AND COWL
ALMOST A YEAR NOW,
BRINGING FEAR AND
RETRIBUTION TO
GOTHAM CITY'S WILD
SIDE.

HE KNOWS HE'S GOOD
AT WHAT HE'S CHOSEN
TO DO--AND HE KNOWS
THAT TIME WILL MAKE
HIM BETTER.



HE'S GIVEN UP A LOT TO FOLLOW
THIS COURSE--THIS WAY OF THE
BAT-- BUT IT FEELS LIKE NO
SACRIFICE. ENERGY BLOCKED IN
ONE DIRECTION IS EQUALLY VIABLE
RELEASED IN ANOTHER.

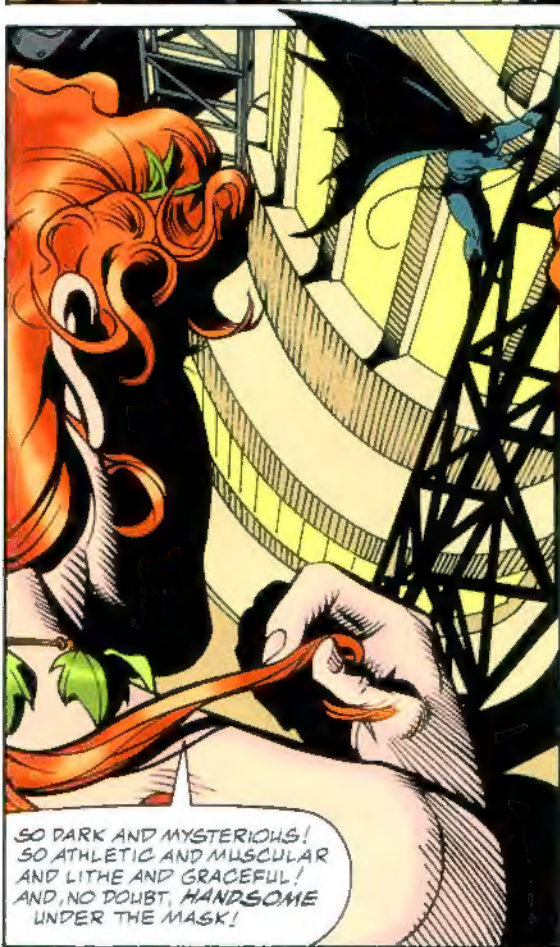
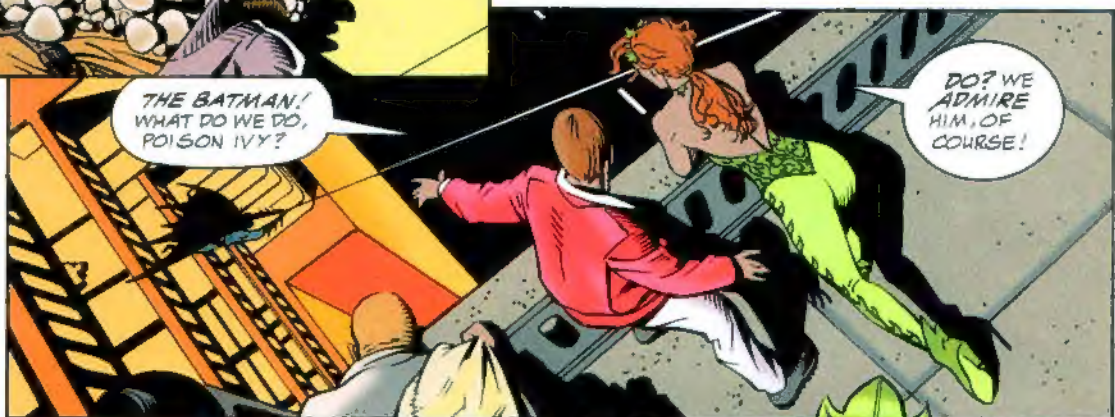
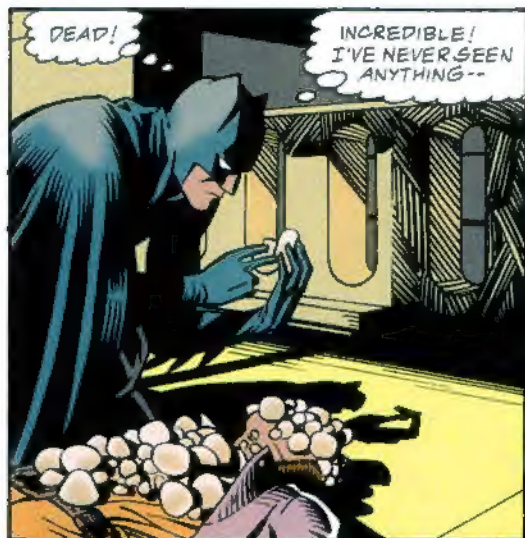
HE'LL TAKE DOWN THE UNDER-
TAKER'S SMACK SCAM WHEN
THE GOODS ARE DELIVERED
TOMORROW. FOR NOW--

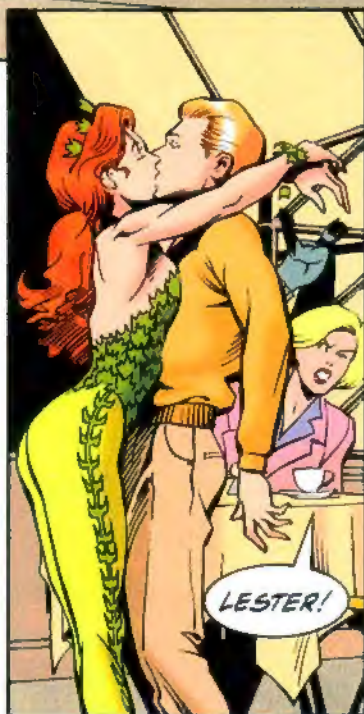
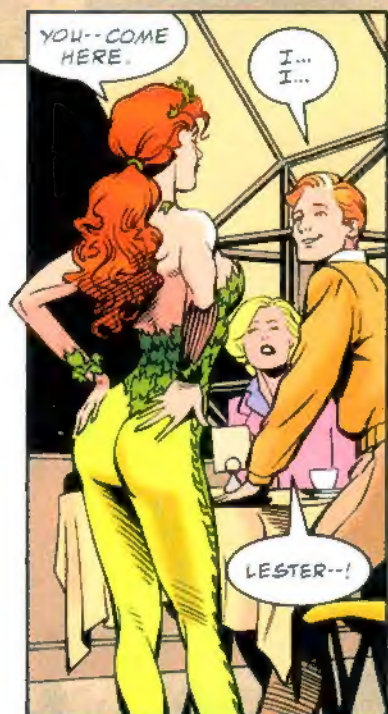
WHEN IT CRIES
OUT, HE
ANSWERS--

HE'S BEGINNING TO FEEL
A PART OF THIS MIGHTY
CITY--TO UNDERSTAND
ITS MOODS AND
SECRET PLACES--

GUUNGH!
NGH!

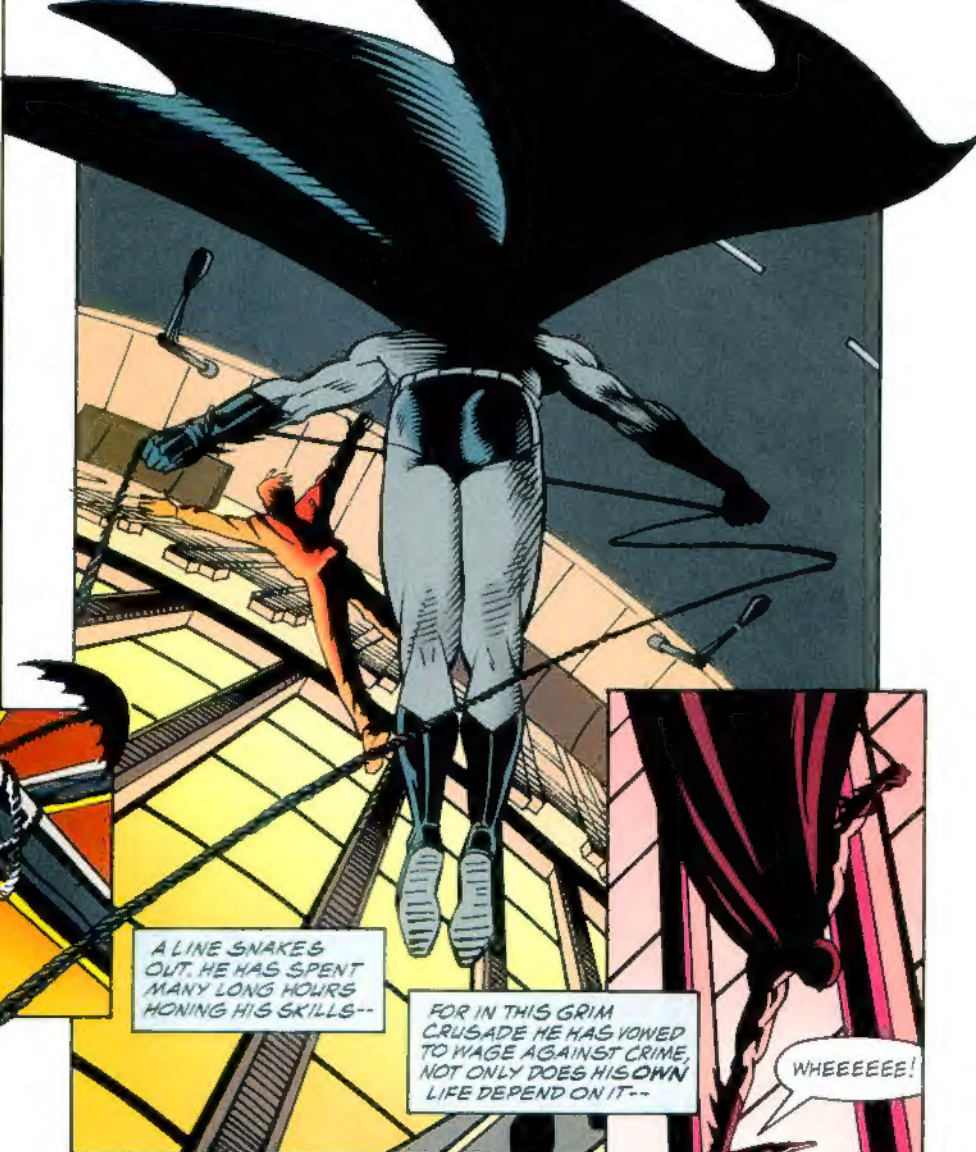








I CAN FLY!



A LINE SNAKES OUT. HE HAS SPENT MANY LONG HOURS HONING HIS SKILLS--

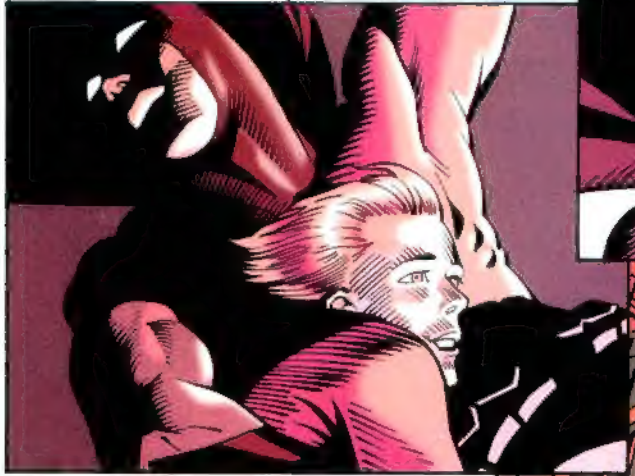
FOR IN THIS GRIM CRUSADE HE HAS VOWED TO WAGE AGAINST CRIME, NOT ONLY DOES HIS OWN LIFE DEPEND ON IT--



WHEEEEEEE!

TO FAIL ONLY ONCE--

--IS TO FAIL FOREVER.

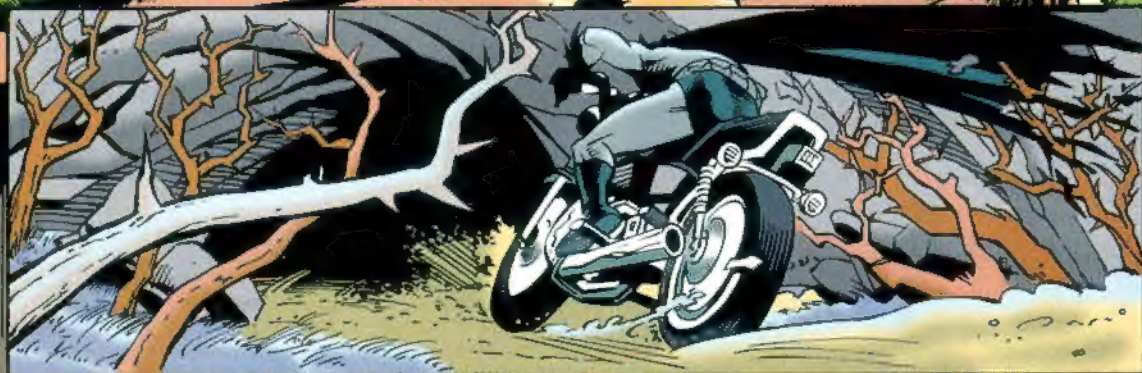


GONE!

WHEE?

CHAPTER 2:

KISS OF THE SPIDERPLANT?

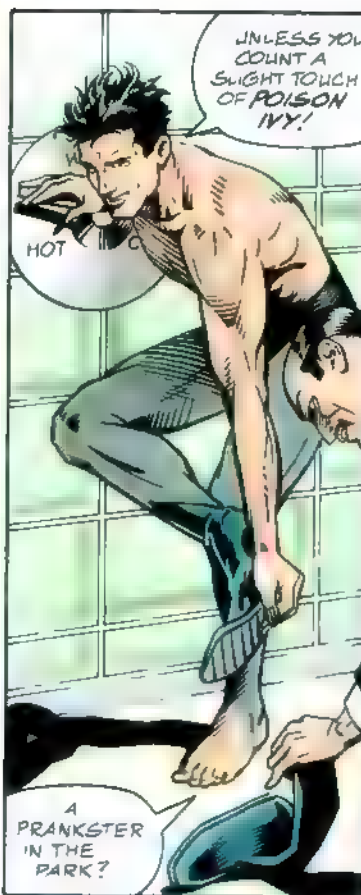


WHY BOTHER, SIR? A QUALIFIED SEAMSTRESS WOULD BE CHEAPER!





APART FROM
THE CAPE, NOT
A SCRATCH,
ALFRED--



UNLESS YOU
COUNT A
SLIGHT TOUCH
OF POISON
IVY!

HOT

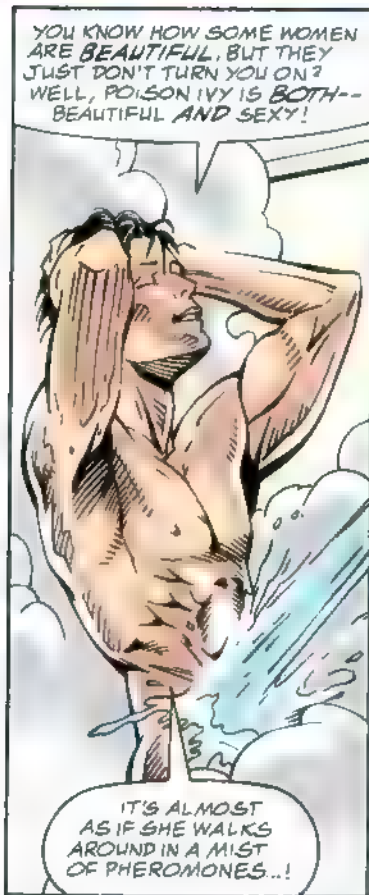
A
PRANKSTER
'IN THE
PARK?



NO. A VERY DEADLY LADY. SHE
KILLED ONE MAN--MADE ANOTHER
LEAP FROM SIX STORIES UP!
VERY... STRANGE!

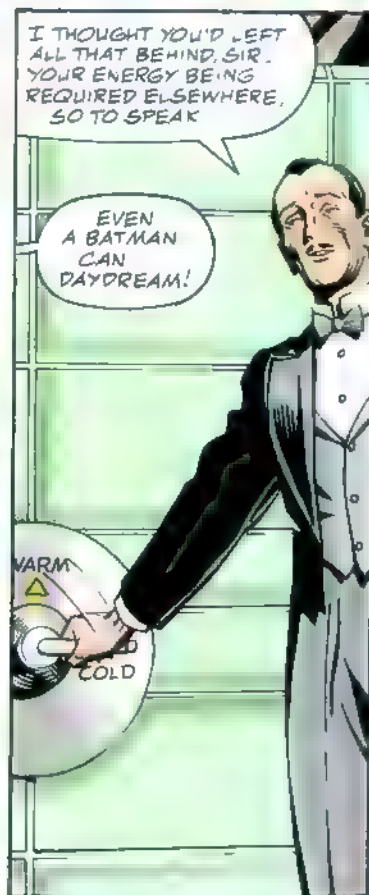
STRANGER THAN THE
CATWOMAN?

BY A
WHISKER!



YOU KNOW HOW SOME WOMEN
ARE BEAUTIFUL, BUT THEY
JUST DON'T TURN YOU ON?
WELL, POISON IVY IS BOTH--
BEAUTIFUL AND SEXY!

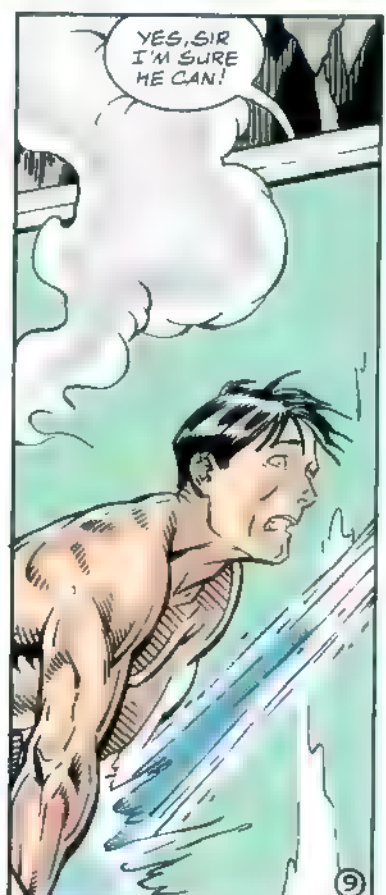
IT'S ALMOST
AS IF SHE WALKS
AROUND IN A MIST
OF PHEROMONES...!



I THOUGHT YOU'D LEFT
ALL THAT BEHIND, SIR.
YOUR ENERGY BEING
REQUIRED ELSEWHERE,
SO TO SPEAK

EVEN
A BATMAN
CAN
DAYDREAM!

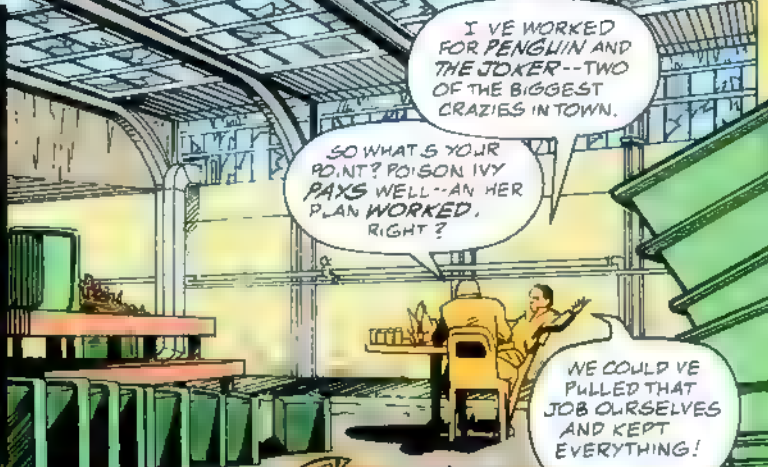
WARM
COLD



YES, SIR
I'M SURE
HE CAN!



"AINT THAT I'M
PREJUDICED
AGAINST KOOKS!"



I'VE WORKED
FOR PENGUIN AND
THE JOKER--TWO
OF THE BIGGEST
CRAZIES IN TOWN.

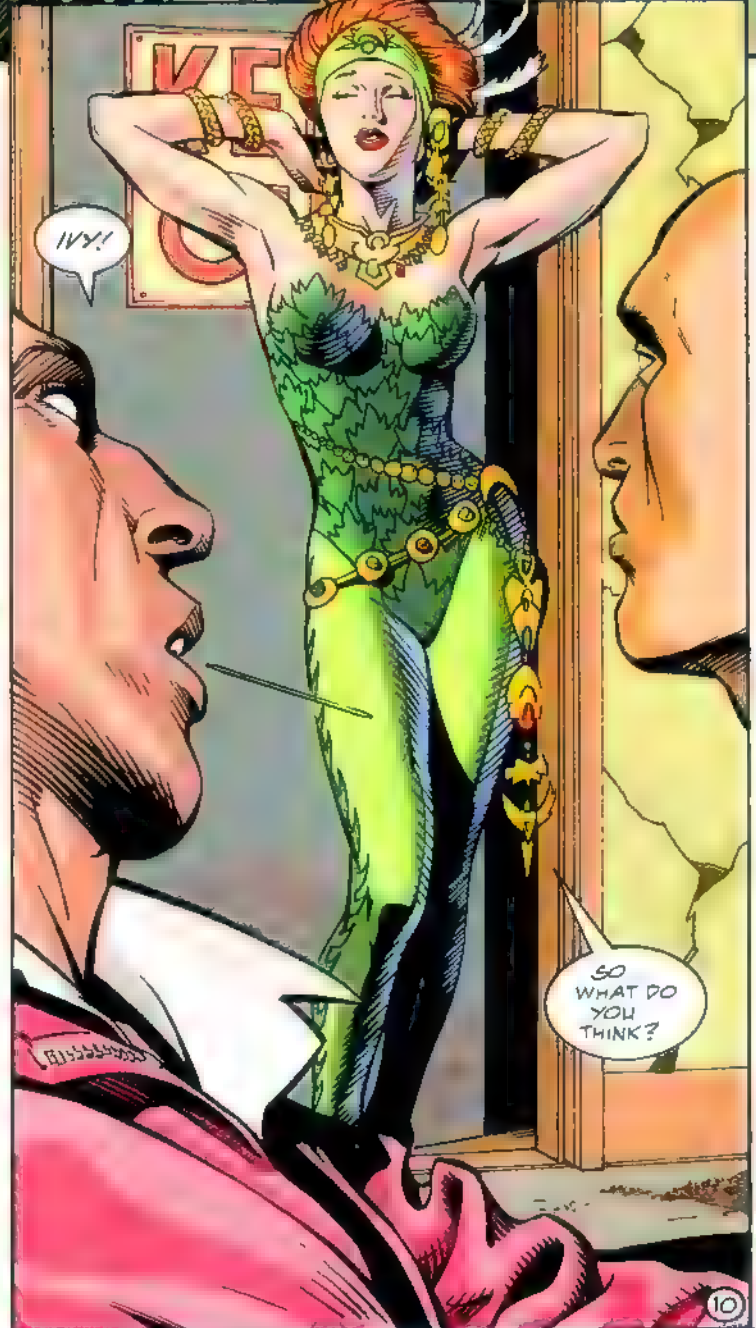
SO WHAT'S YOUR
POINT? POISON IVY
PAYS WELL--AN HER
PLAN WORKED,
RIGHT?

WE COULD'VE
PULLED THAT
JOB OURSELVES
AND KEPT
EVERYTHING!



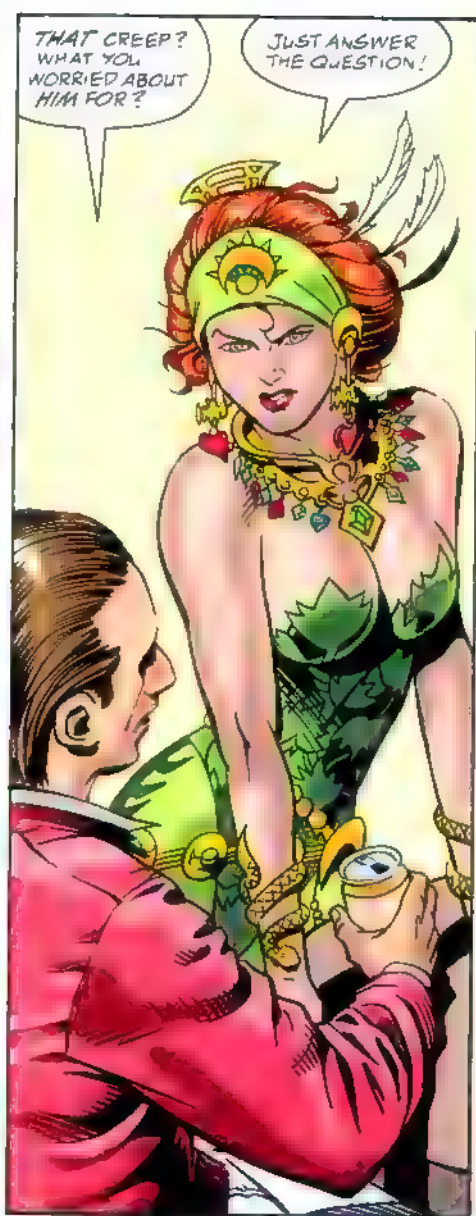
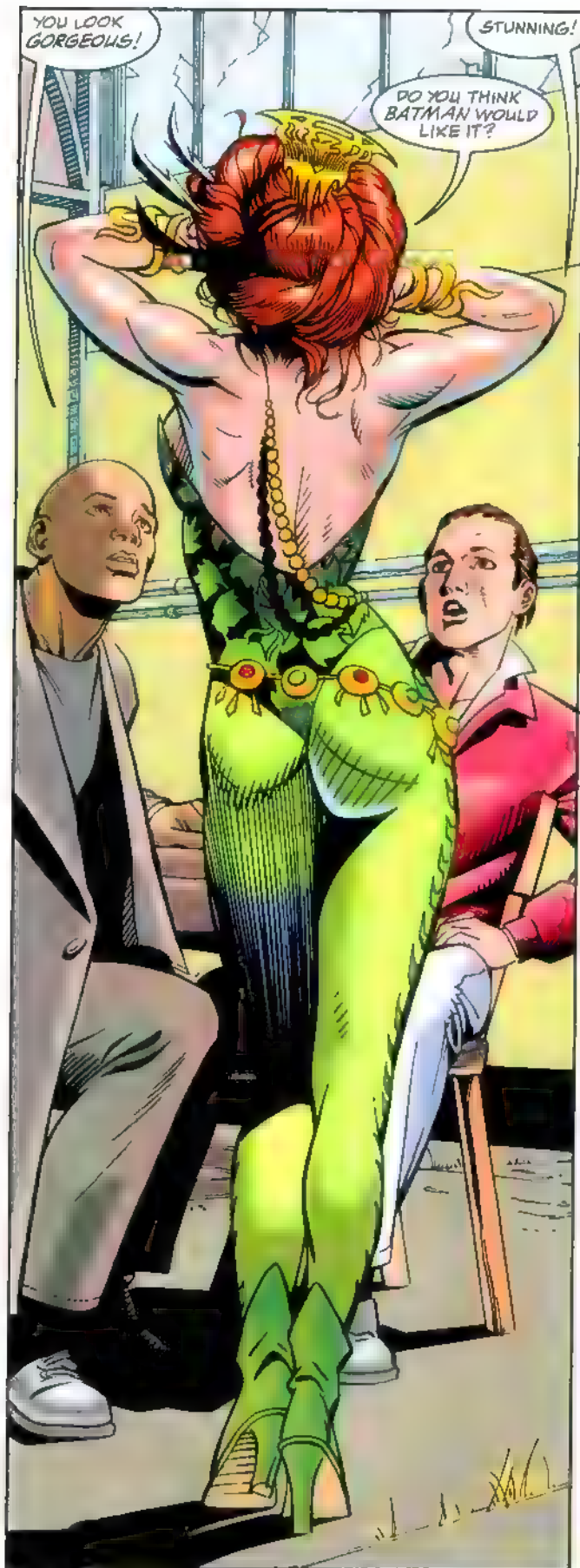
I GUESS IT'S 'CUZ
SHE'S A WOMAN--
THAT'S WHAT I DON'T
LIKE. DON'T FEEL
RIGHT, TAKIN' ORDERS
FROM A BABE!

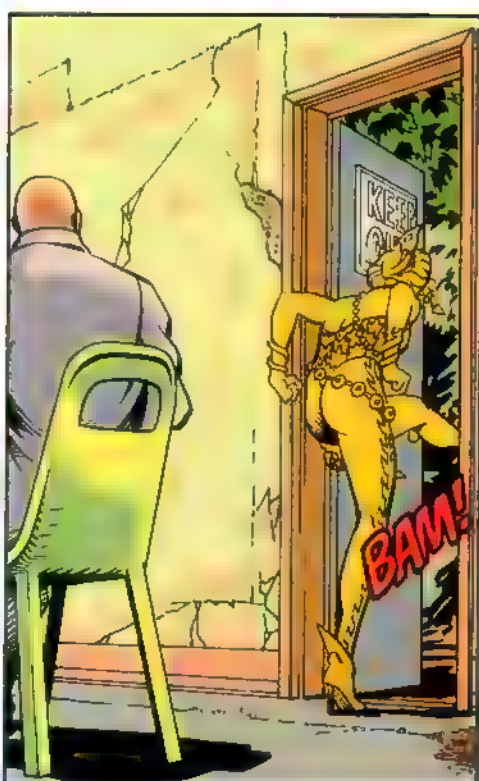
NOT
EVEN ONE
AS NICE
AS ME..?



IVY!

SO
WHAT DO
YOU
THINK?

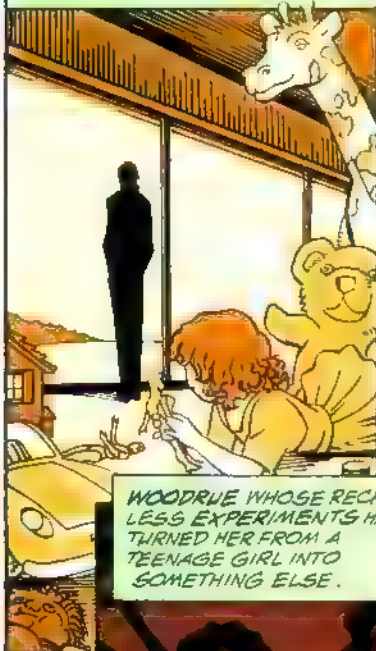




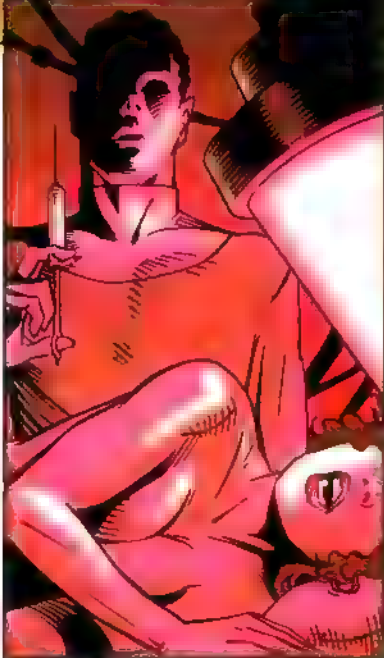
THE JEWELS AGAINST
HER SKIN FEEL CHEAP
AND TAWDRY--COLD, AND
ALIEN-DEAD CRYSTAL--

MEN..!

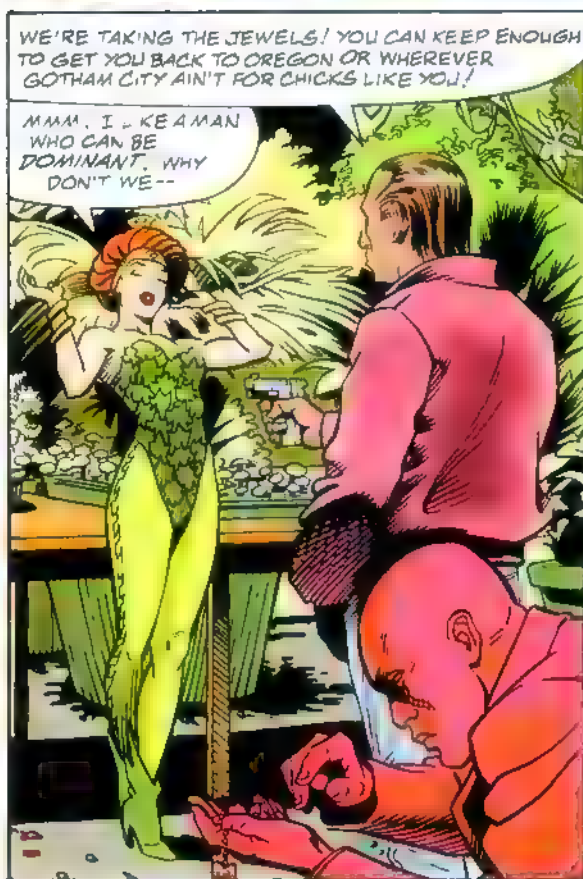
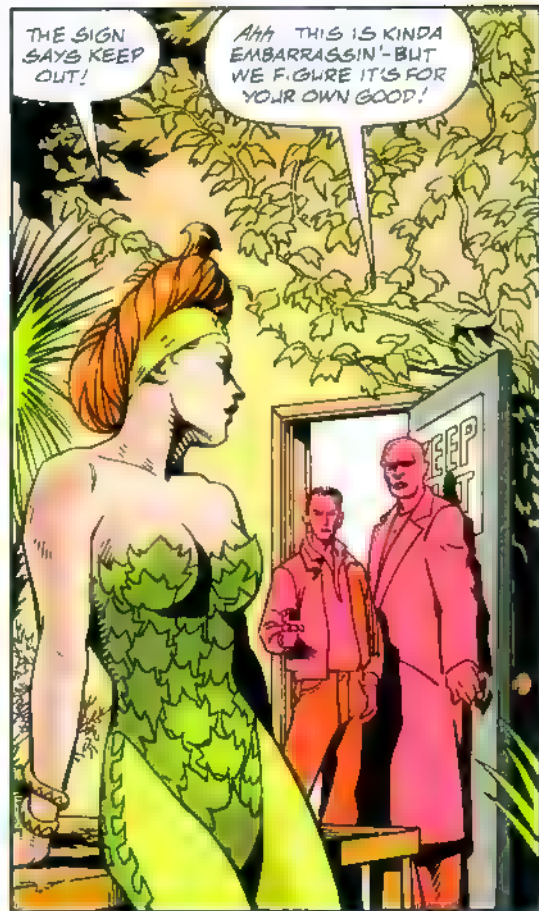
MEN HAD ALWAYS DECEIVED HER,
BETRAYED HER, LET HER DOWN.
HER FATHER, WHO'D SPOILED
HER ROTTEN YET STAYED SO
DISTANT SHE NEVER KNEW HIM--

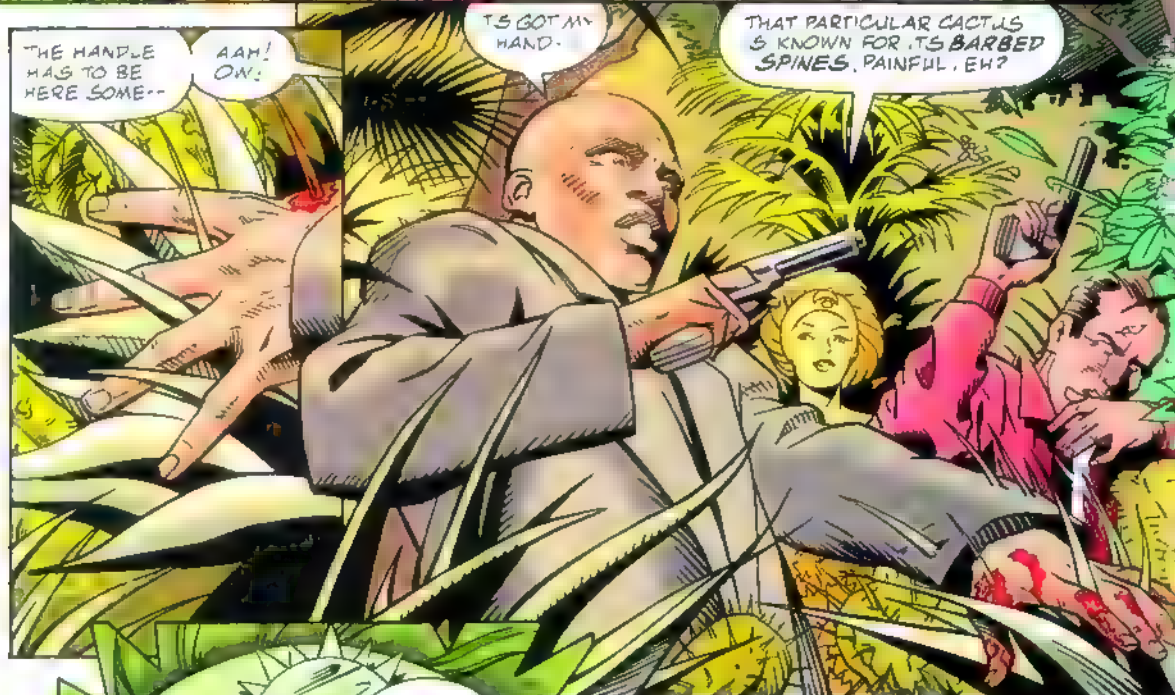
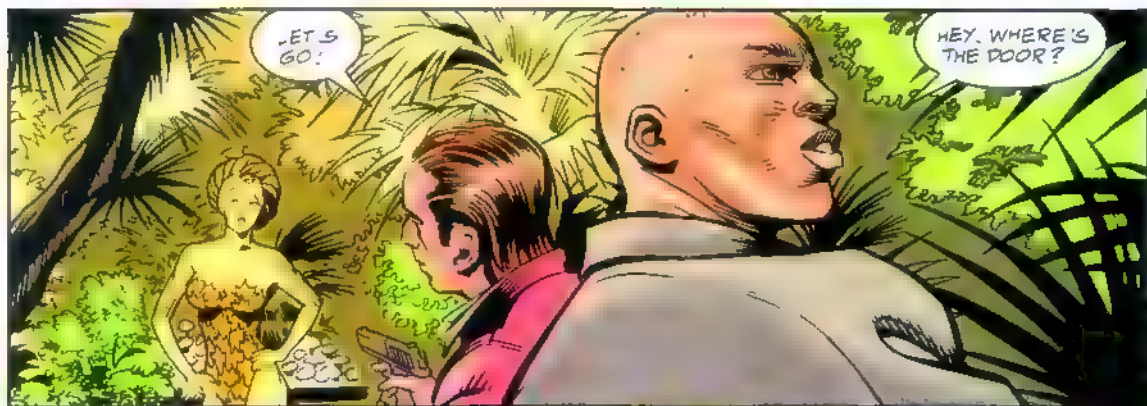


WOODRUE WHOSE RECK-
LESS EXPERIMENTS HAD
TURNED HER FROM A
TEENAGE GIRL INTO
SOMETHING ELSE.



DAMN
THEM
ALL!









--LIPSTICK CONTAINS
A PLANT-BASED OINTMENT
SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS
OF BELLADONNA,
HENBANE, DIGITALIS..!

ALL
POISONS!

IN QUANTITY, YES. IN SMALLER DOSES, THEY
HAVE DIFFERENT EFFECTS. IN FACT, MEDIEVAL
EUROPEAN WITCHES USED A LOT ON VERY
SIMILAR TO THOSE--WHICH HISTORIANS
BELIEVE CAUSED THEIR VISIONS OF
FLYING

LIKE THE
MAN ON THE
BALCONY?

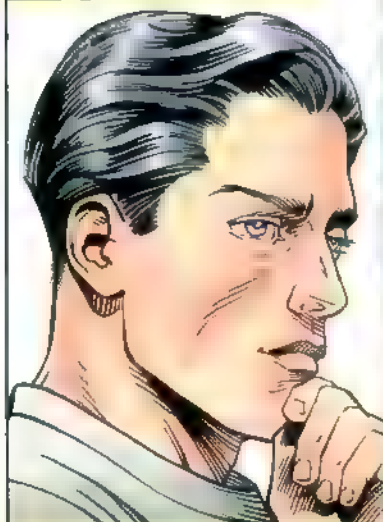
SO THAT'S
THE QUESTION--
WHY WASN'T
POISON IVY
AFFECTED?

THE FUNGUS IS MORE
DIFFICULT. IT'S BEEN
ARTIFICIALLY MUTATED--
ITS GENES SOMEHOW
ACCELERATED TO
REPRODUCE EXTREMELY
QUICKLY

BUT HOW'S BEYOND ME
I NEED A SPECTROSCOPE--
A FULL COMPUTER FACILITY.

I'LL
ADD THEM TO
'CAR ON YOUR
CHRISTMAS
LIST, SIR.

SO HE HAS AN EXPERT
BOTANIST WHO'S ALSO A
DEADLY KILLER ON THE
LOOSE--



AND HE CAN HARDLY WAIT TILL
THEY MEET AGAIN!

I'VE A HUNCH SHE'LL STRIKE
TONIGHT. CRIMINALS ARE NEVER
CONTENT WITH ONLY ONE JOB.
IT'S THE POWER THEY SEEK,
NOT JUST THE FINANCIAL
GAIN!

AND INCREASINGLY
SURE, THE CHANCE TO
MATCH WITS WITH
THE BATMAN!



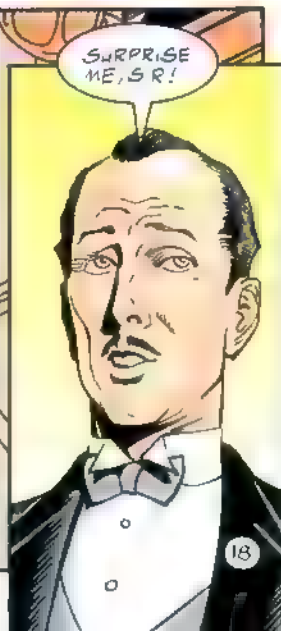
HOWEVER YOU ALREADY
HAVE A DATE. COUNCILMAN
DANZIG'S CHARITY DINNER
WHICH YOU'VE PROMISED TO
ATTEND WITH THE ACTRESS
BEBE DANIELLE--

WHO I'VE ALREADY
PUT OFF THRICE AND
WHO, TO JUDGE BY HER
TELEPHONE MANNER,
IS GETTING EXTREMELY
SUSPICIOUS!



I'LL BE
LEAVING
EARLY.

SURPRISE
ME, S.R!

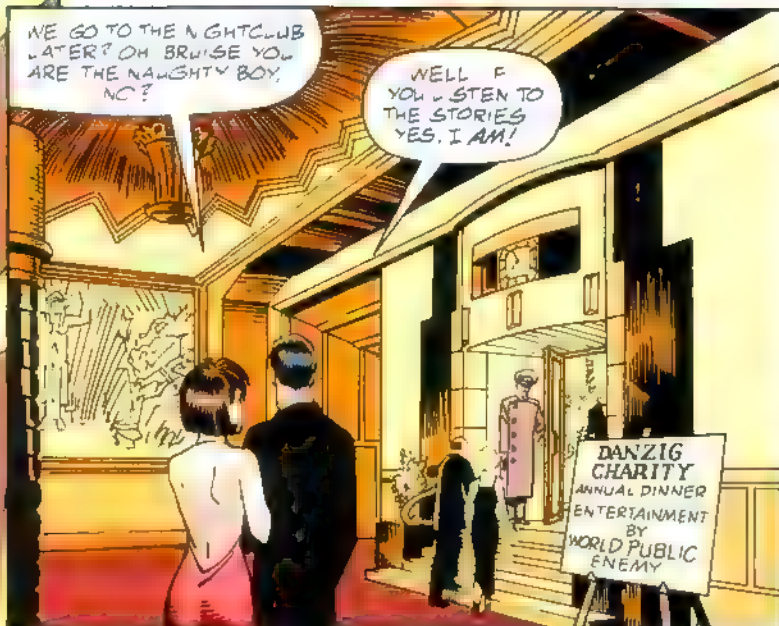


CHAPTER 3:

THE SECRET LIFE OF PLANTS

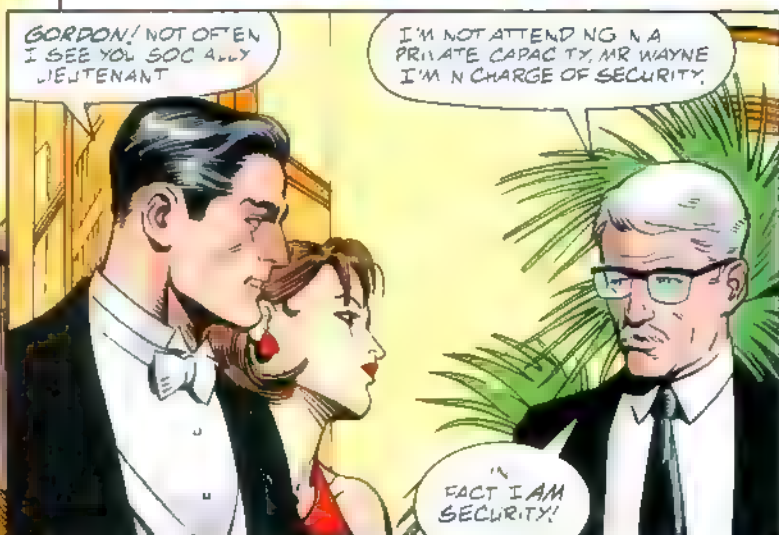
WE GO TO THE NIGHTCLUB
LATER? OH BRUISE YOU
ARE THE NAUGHTY BOY,
NO?

WELL F
YOU LISTEN TO
THE STORIES
YES, I AM!



GORDON! NOT OFTEN
I SEE YOU SOCIALLY
JEFFREY

I'M NOT ATTENDING A
PRIVATE CAPACITY, MR WAYNE
I'M IN CHARGE OF SECURITY.



IN
FACT I AM
SECURITY!

I FEEL
SAFER
ALREADY.

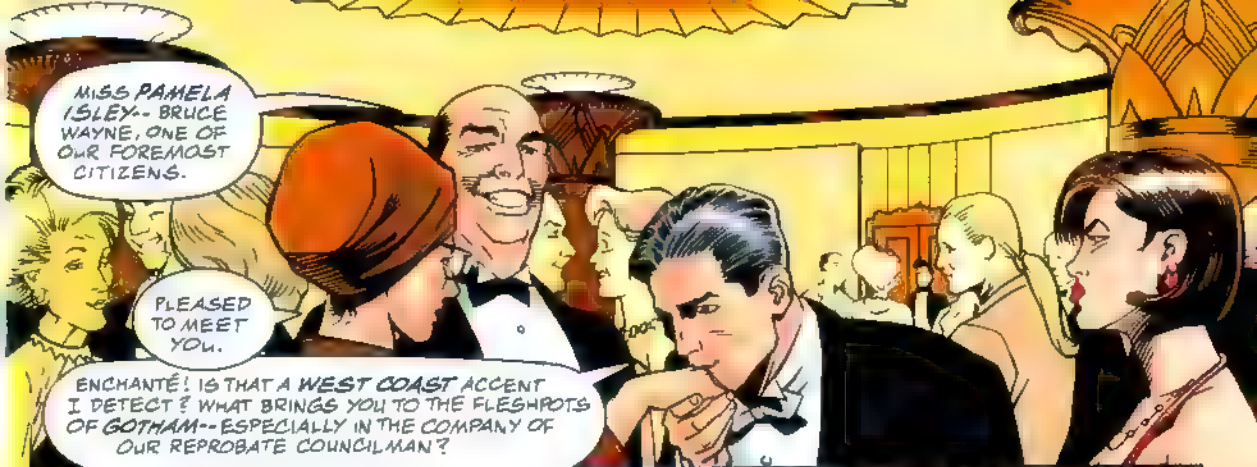
LATE AS
ALWAYS, EH,
WAYNE?

I'D LIKE TO
INTRODUCE MY
COMPANION--



HOW
LONG
I'LL BE ALERED
NAT.



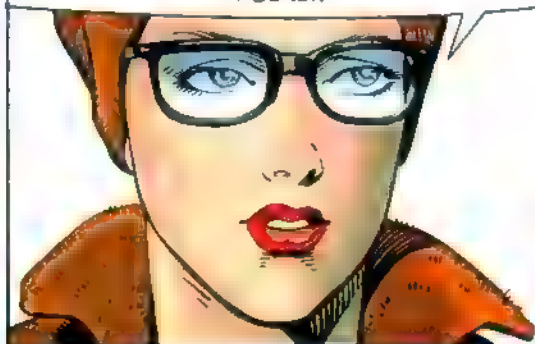


MISS PAMELA ISLEY-- BRUCE WAYNE, ONE OF OUR FOREMOST CITIZENS.

PLEASED TO MEET YOU.

ENCHANTÉ! IS THAT A WEST COAST ACCENT I DETECT? WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE FLESHPOTS OF GOTHAM-- ESPECIALLY IN THE COMPANY OF OUR REPROBATE COUNCILMAN?

OPPORTUNITY. I'M A PLANT BIOLOGIST-- THOUGHT I MIGHT FIND A LUCRATIVE... RESEARCH POSITION HERE. I'M FILLING IN TIME WORKING FOR AN ESCORT AGENCY.



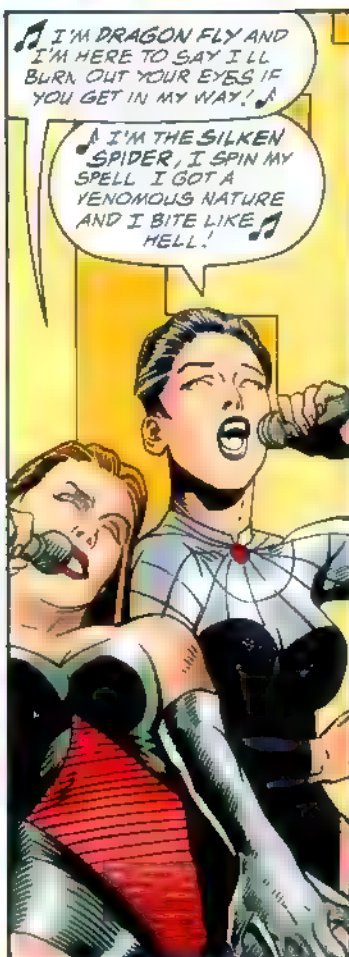
PERHAPS YOU SHOULD APPLY TO ONE OF MY COMPANIES...!



BRUISE. PLEASE TO BE SITTING FOR DINNER.

EXCUSE ME MISS SLEY. MAYBE LATER--

DEFINITELY LATER BRUISE!



♪ I'M DRAGON FLY AND I'M HERE TO SAY I'LL BURN OUT YOUR EYES IF YOU GET IN MY WAY! ♪

♪ I'M THE SILKEN SPIDER, I SPIN MY SPELL I GOT A VENOMOUS NATURE AND I BITE LIKE HELL! ♪

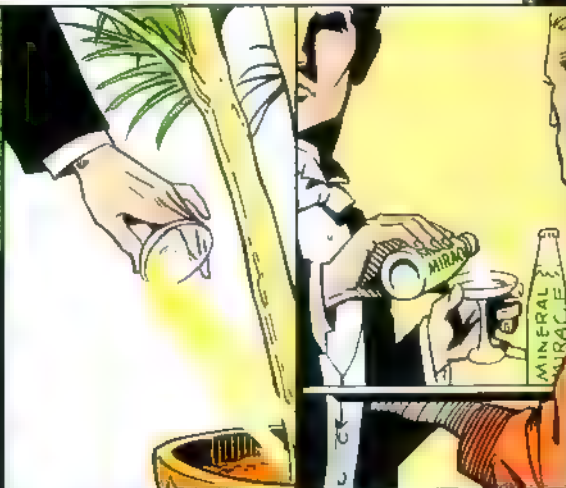


♪ LAST BUT NOT LEAST I'M THE TIGER MOTH-- PIN BACK YOUR EARS 'CUZ WE'RE GONNA BLOW 'EM OFF! ♪

GOOD LORD, WHAT LL THEY THINK OF NEXT?



CHAMPAGNE! BEBE
AND I JUST LOVE
CHAMPAGNE!



BRUCE WAYNE NEVER TOUCHES ALCOHOL.
SOMETIMES HE HATES THIS CHARADE HE HAS
CHOSEN TO PLAY--

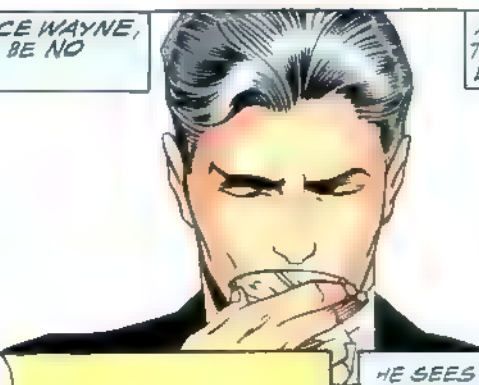


--PROPOSE
A TOAST TO
COUNCILMAN
DANZIG.

YET PLAY IT HE MUST, FOR
IT IS WAYNE INDUSTRIES
AND THE WAYNE FORTUNE
THAT FUND HIS OTHER,
FAVORED ROLE--



WITHOUT BRUCE WAYNE,
THERE WOULD BE NO
BATMAN.

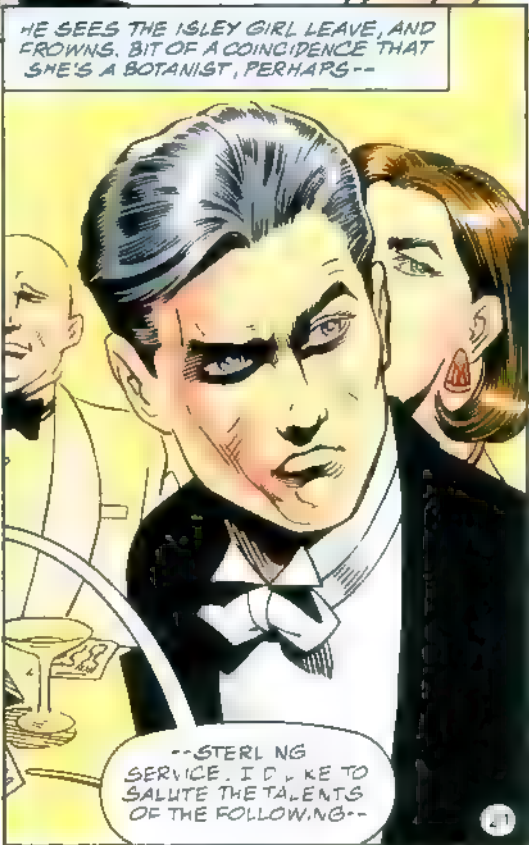


AND PERHAPS, WITHOUT
THE BATMAN, THERE WOULD
BE NO BRUCE WAYNE--



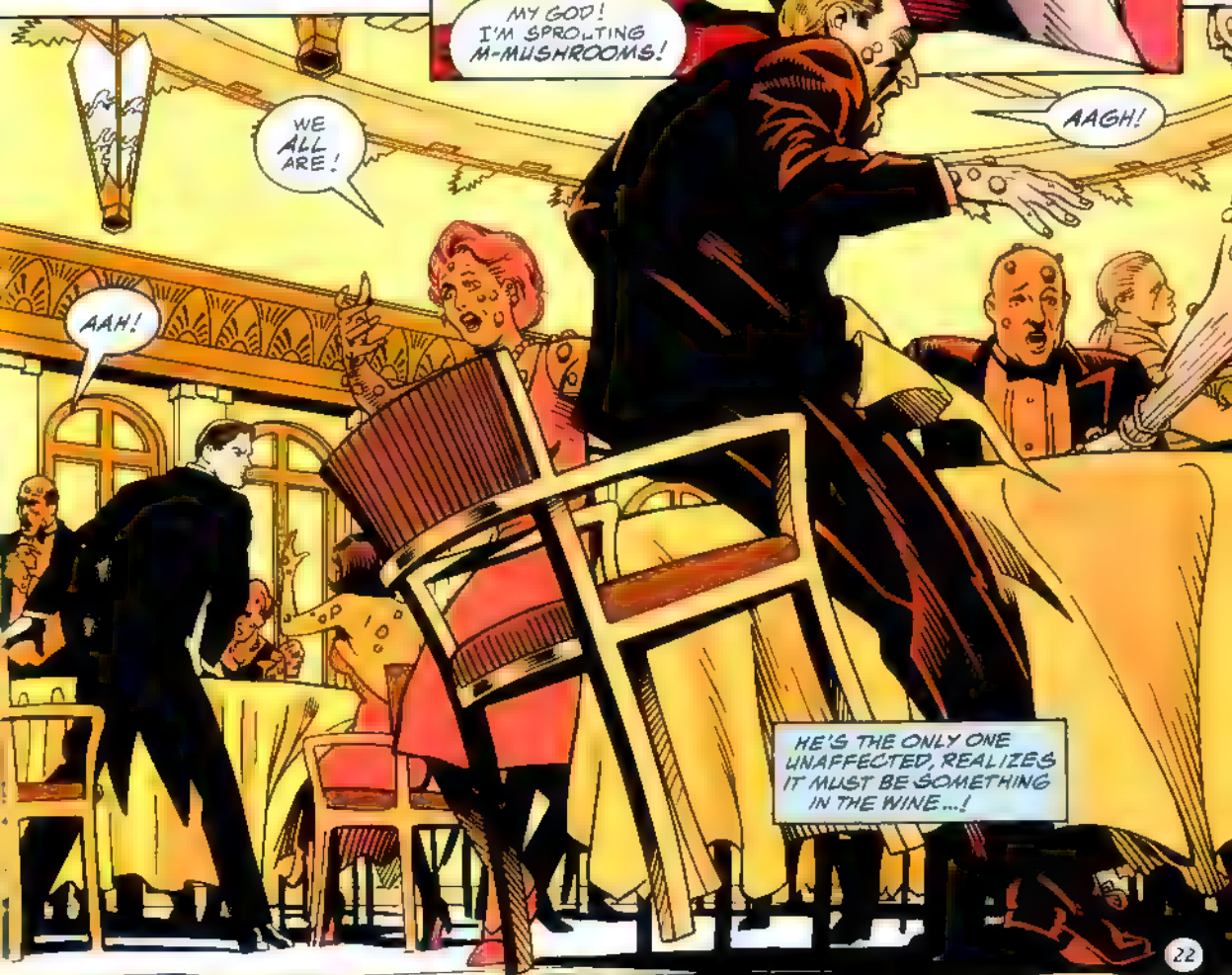
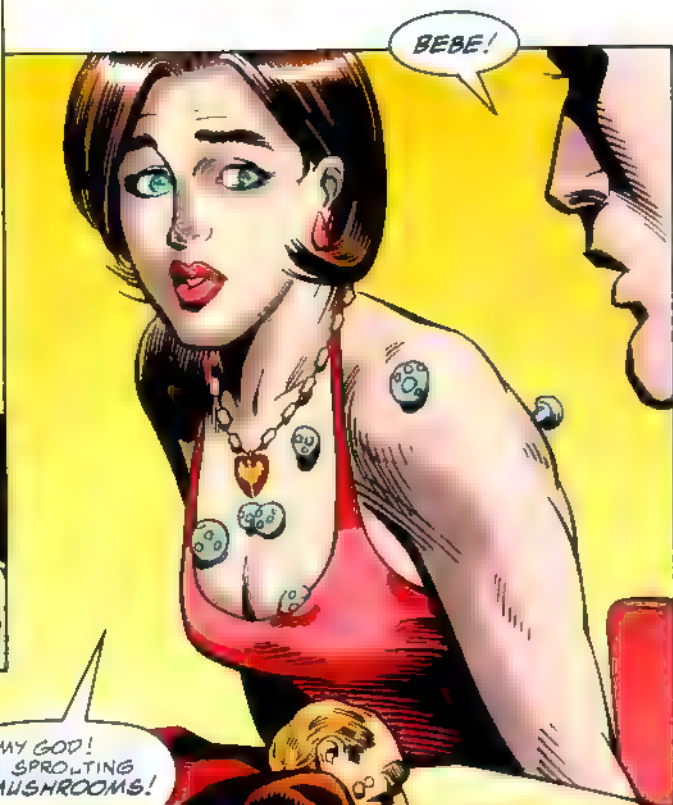
MY SPEECH
WON'T TAKE
LONG--

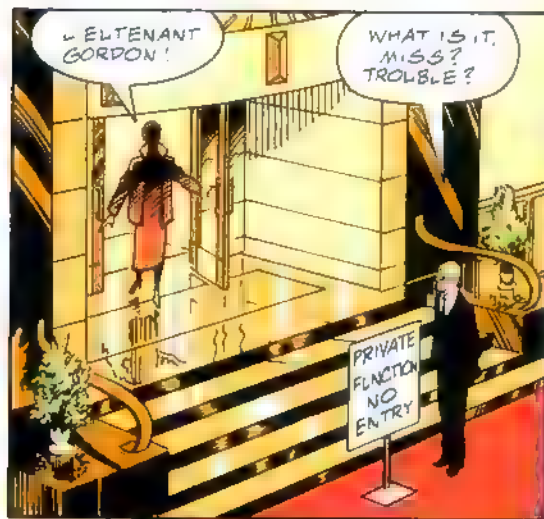
THAT'S WHAT
HE SAYS! I'LL
BET IT'S AN
HOUR BEFORE
WE EAT

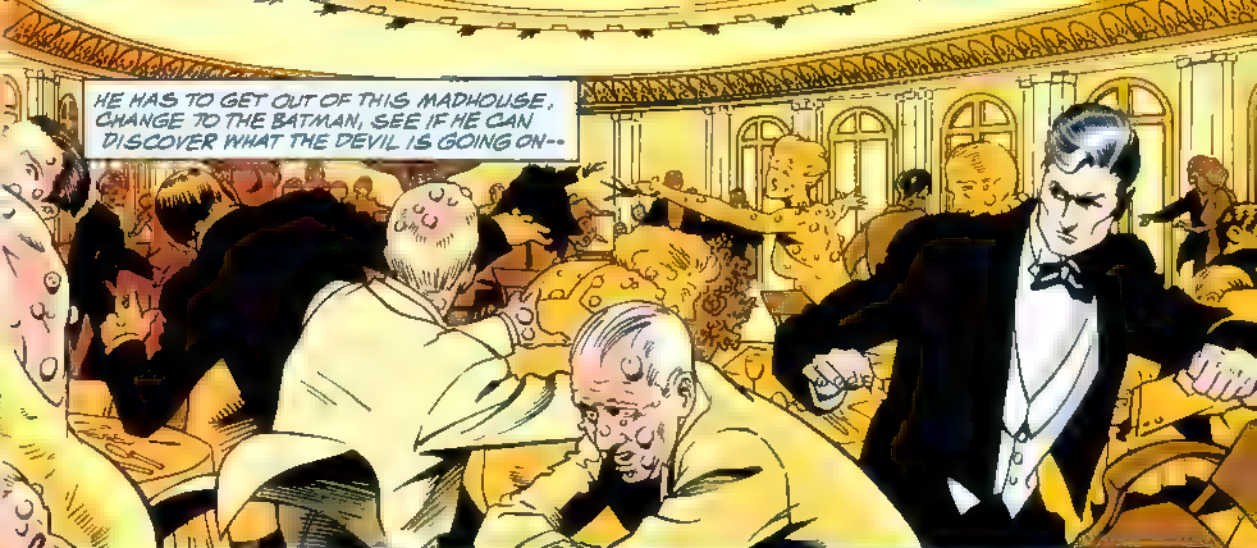


HE SEES THE ISLEY GIRL LEAVE, AND
FROWNS. BIT OF A COINCIDENCE THAT
SHE'S A BOTANIST, PERHAPS--

--STERLING
SERVICE. I'D LIKE TO
SALUTE THE TALENTS
OF THE FOLLOWING--







HE HAS TO GET OUT OF THIS MADHOUSE,
CHANGE TO THE BATMAN, SEE IF HE CAN
DISCOVER WHAT THE DEVIL IS GOING ON--



WHERE D'YA
THINK YOU'RE
GOIN'?

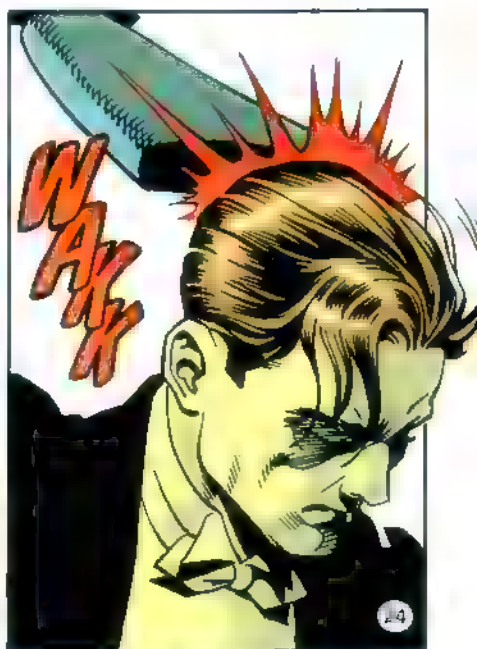
Er THE
MEN'S ROOM?



HE CAN'T AFFORD TO
LET THEM TAKE HIM
HE'S AT A BIG
DISADVANTAGE,
MADE WORSE BY
HAVING TO
APPEAR
CLUMSY--



IF HE
MOVES FAST
ENOUGH--





NOT BAD, FOR
THE PLAYBOY
OF THE
WESTERN
WORLD!

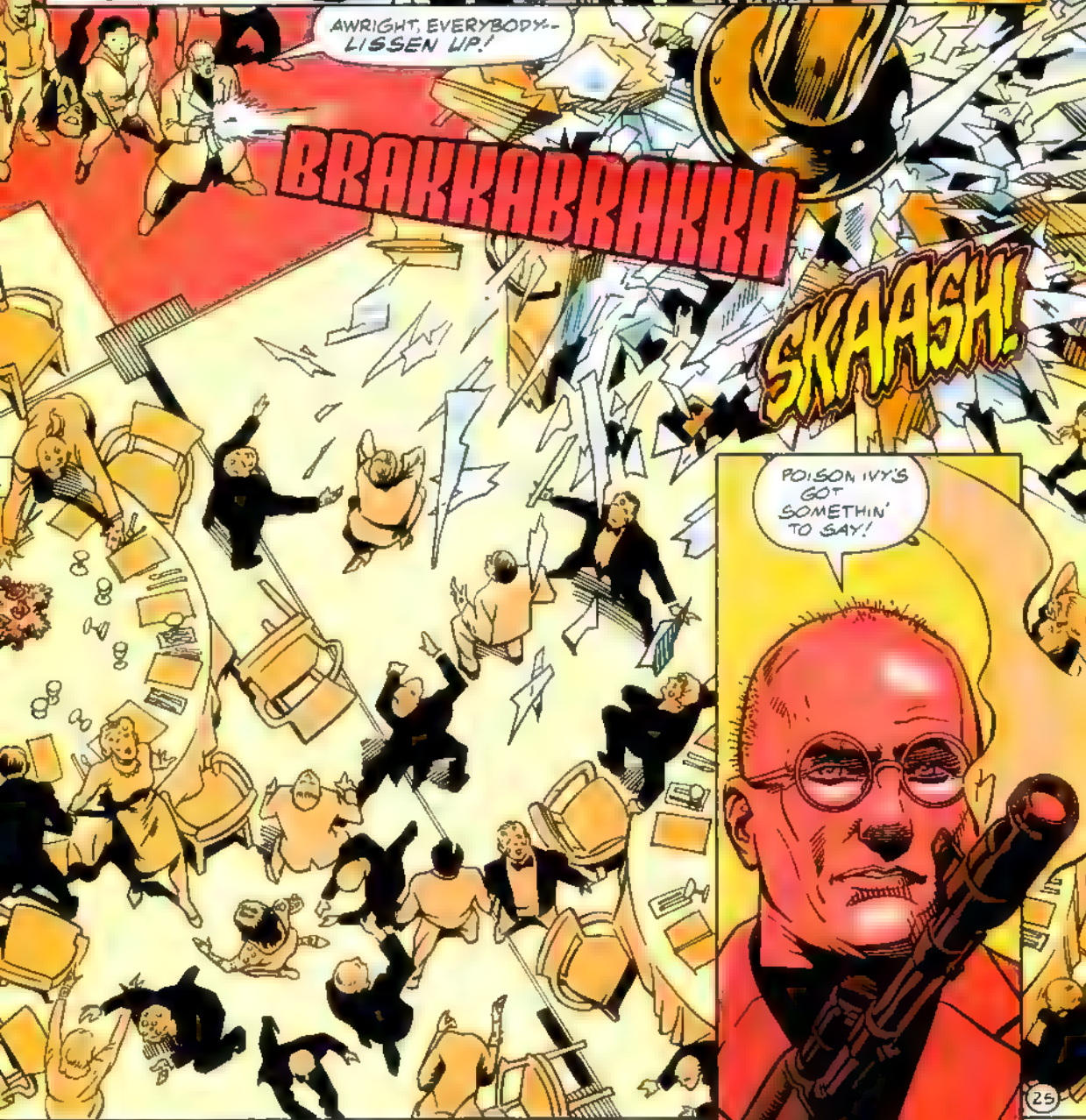
HE
OBY OUSLY
DIDN'T DR NK
ANY OF MY
CHAMPAGNE,
THOUGH!



OH
MERCY,
MERCY!

I...
I DON'T
BELIEVE
IT!

MY
FACE.
MY
FACE!



AWRIGHT, EVERYBODY--
LISSEN UP!

BRAKKABRAKKA

SKAASH!

POISON IVY'S
GOT
SOMETHIN'
TO SAY!



YOU HAVE BEEN INFECTED BY A FUNGAL POISON I PERFECTED. USUALLY IT'S FATAL--BUT FORTUNATELY, YOU HAVE THE MILD FORM OF THE DISEASE. EASILY CURED BY THE LIQUID IN THIS BOTTLE.



THE QUICKER YOU GIVE MY MEN ALL YOUR CASH, CHECKS, CREDIT CARDS AND JEWELRY, THE QUICKER I WILL GIVE YOU THE ANTIDOTE!



THAT'S RIGHT! NO TRICKS AND YOU'LL GO HOME NORMAL!

HE COMES ROUND
WITH BEBE'S VOICE
RINGING IN HIS EARS--

NO! THIS
LOCKET HAS MY
MOTHER'S PHOTO.
YOU DO NOT
TAKE IT.

--FALLING FOUL OF IVY'S
MERCURIAL EMOTIONS--

I TAKE
WHATEVER
I WANT,
LADY.

YOU ARE CRAZY! INSANE!

HEY!

I DID NOT LEARN THE
MARTIAL ARTS TO TAKE
ORDERS FROM THE
LUNATIC!





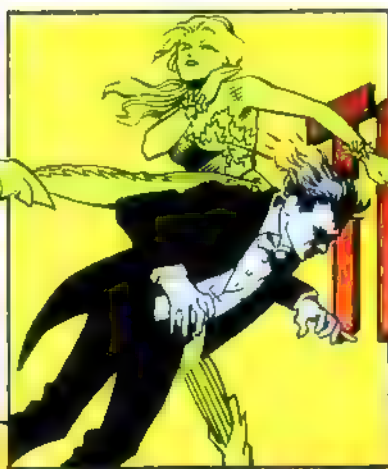
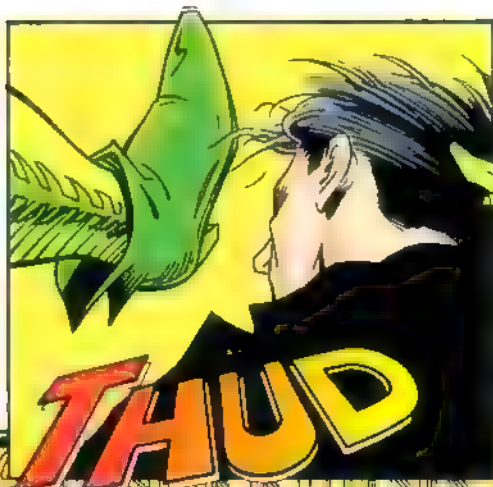
NO!

BLAM!



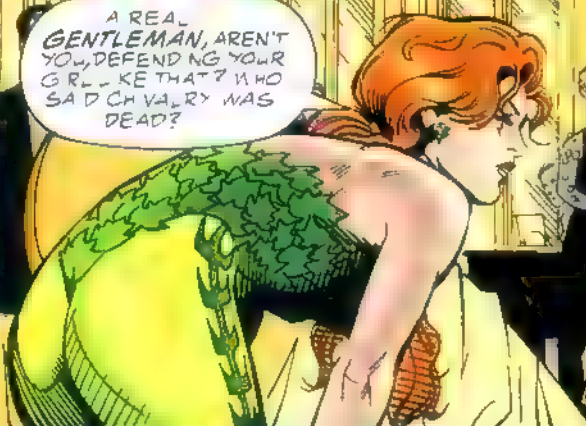
TOO LATE! SHE WAS HIT! GRIEF AND ANGER FLOOD THROUGH HIM--





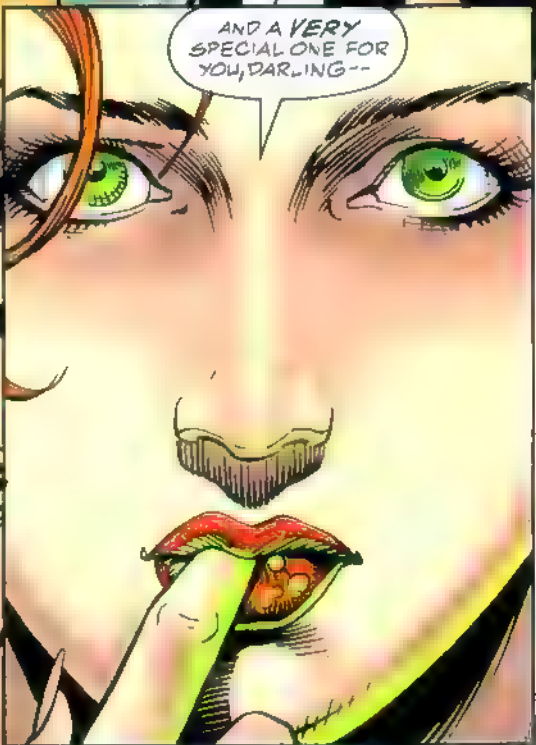
THUD

A REAL GENTLEMAN, AREN'T YOU, DEFENDING YOUR GIRL-- KE THAT? WHO SAID CHIVALRY WAS DEAD?



SUCH NOBILITY MUST BE REWARDED! SO I WON'T KILL YOU RIGHT AWAY.

MY BODY MANUFACTURES ITS OWN TOXINS MR WAYNE-- MY BLOOD IS A SEETHING MASS OF POISONS I'VE LEARNED HOW TO CONTROL THEM AND I HAVE ONE FOR EVERY PURPOSE YOU COULD POSSIBLY IMAGINE--



AND A VERY SPECIAL ONE FOR YOU, DARLING--

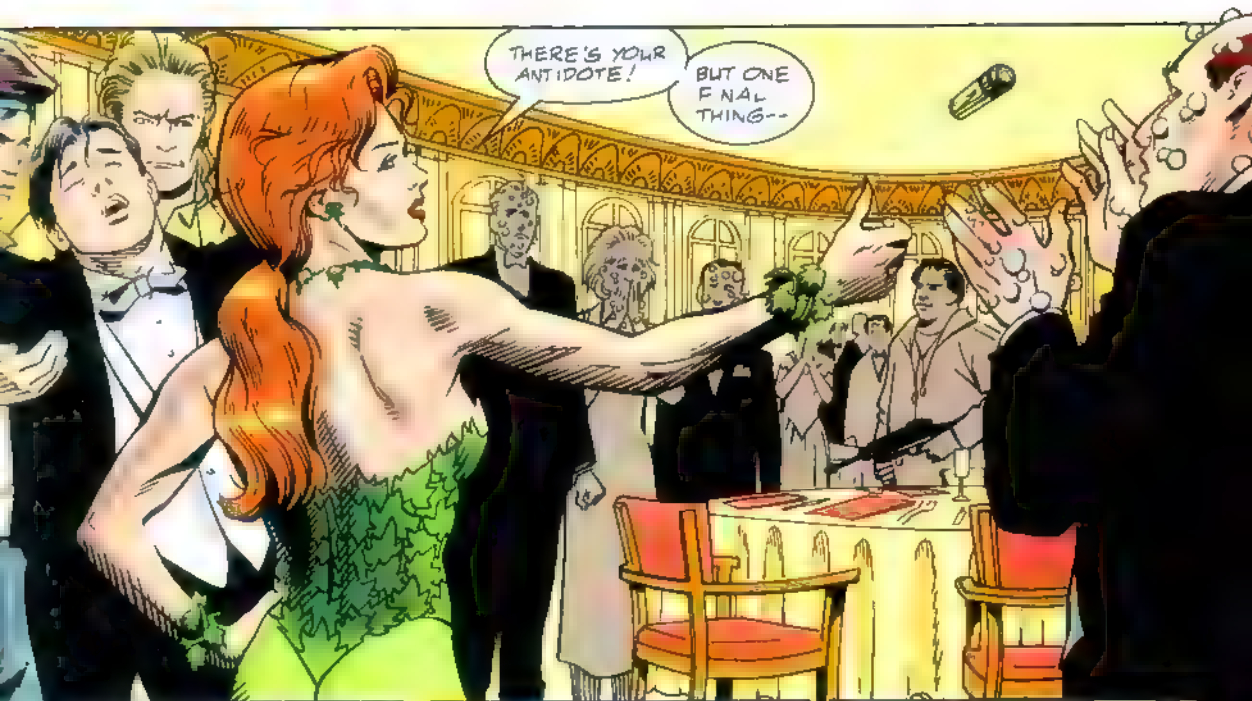


HER MOUTH QUIVERS,
LIKE A LEAF IN A
BREEZE. HER EYES
SPARKLE WITH SOME-
THING HE NEVER SAW
IN HUMAN EYES
BEFORE

THEN HER LIPS FASTEN
ON HIS. HIS HEART
POUNDS AND HIS BACK
ARCS AS GREEN FIRE
RACES THROUGH HIS
VEINS.

HIS BLOOD SINGS OF
WATERFALLS, SUNRISE
IN SPRINGTIME OF THE
COOL GREEN THAT
LIVES FOR NO REASON
OTHER THAN LOVE OF
LIFE ITSELF.

TEARS STING HIS
EYES FOR HER
ALIEN WORLD.



THERE'S YOUR ANTIDOTE!

BUT ONE FINAL THING--

I INTEND TO RELEASE THE FULL-STRENGTH VERSION OF THIS DISEASE INTO GOTHAM'S AIR. THE ONLY THING THAT WILL PETER ME IS THE SUM OF TEN MILLION DOLLARS.

YOU HAVE UNTIL THE WEEKEND.

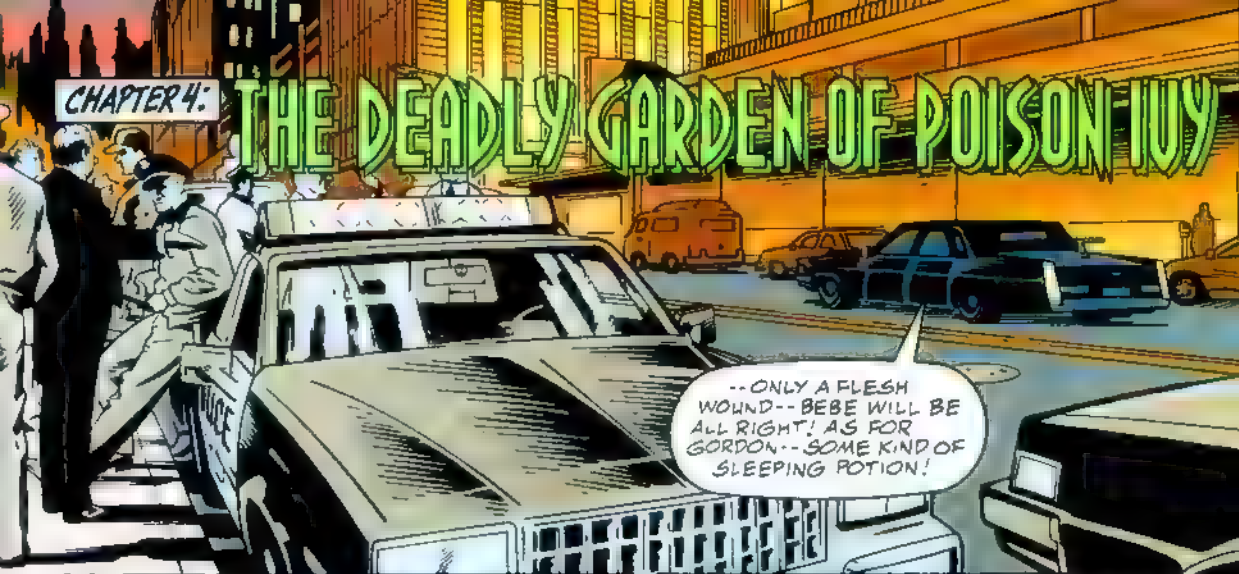
BUT NOT YOU, MR WAYNE! YOU'LL BE DEAD WITHIN THE HOUR UNLESS YOU FIND THE ANTIDOTE

YOUR PROBLEM, DARLING.

CIAO.

WHICH IS.?

THE DEADLY GARDEN OF POISON IVY



-- ONLY A FLESH WOUND-- BEBE WILL BE ALL RIGHT! AS FOR GORDON-- SOME KIND OF SLEEPING POTION!



WE'RE GOING AFTER MISS IVY NOW, I TAKE IT?

I HAVE TO! I MANAGED TO PIN A BAT-TRACER TO HER WHEN SHE WAS KISSING ME--



AH YES-- I HAVE HER! HEADING FOR THE OLD WAREHOUSE DISTRICT. !



YOU DON'T LOOK VERY WELL, S.R. FEVERED, IF YOU ASK ME. ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT?

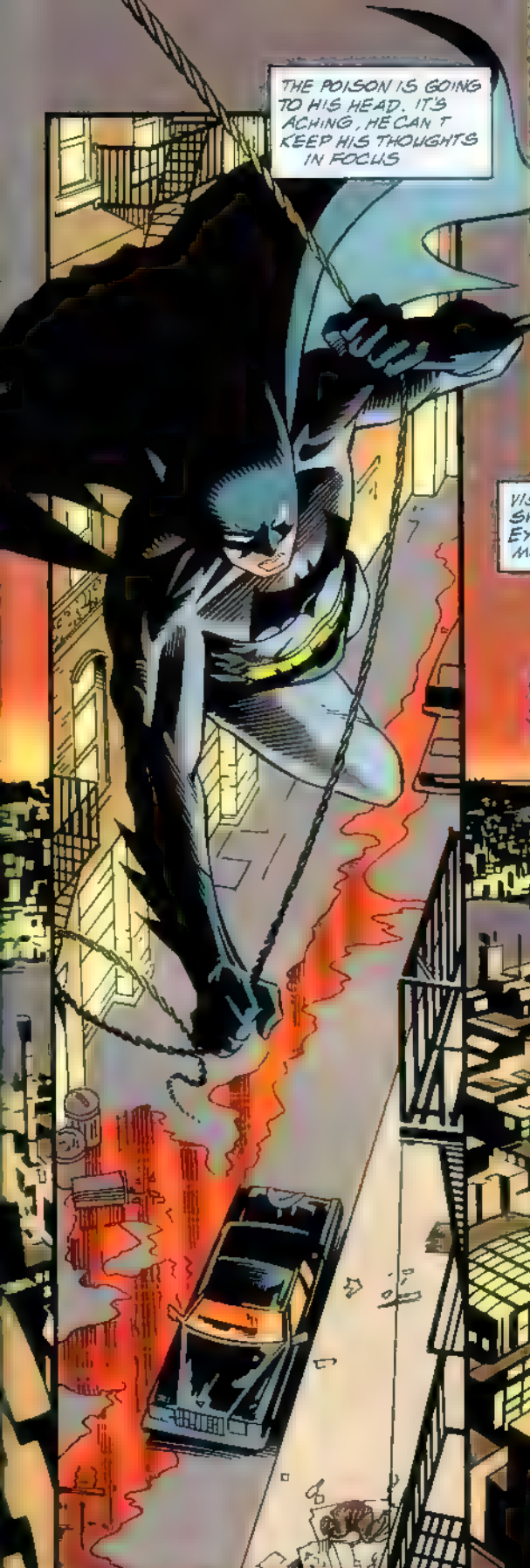
NO, BUT THERE'S NO SICK LEAVE IN THIS JOB UNLESS I FIND IVY--



THIS IS THE BEST I'LL GET!



BLAST! WE'VE LOST HER!



THE POISON IS GOING
TO HIS HEAD. IT'S
ACHING, HE CAN'T
KEEP HIS THOUGHTS
IN FOCUS



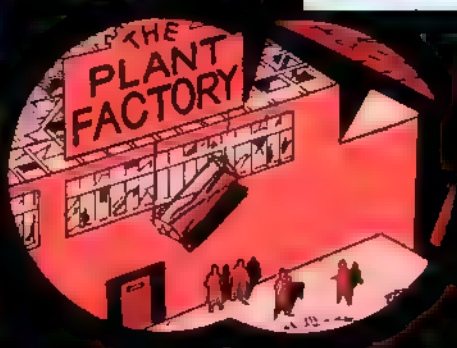
VISIONS OF IVY
SWIM BEFORE HIS
EYES, TEASING,
MOCKING HIM



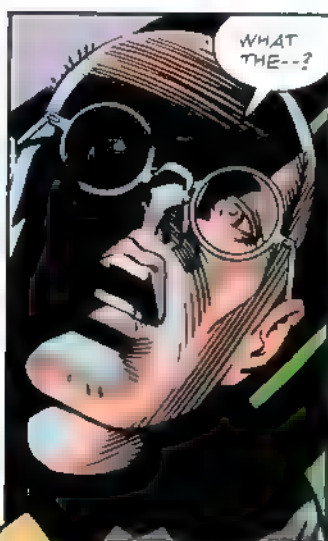
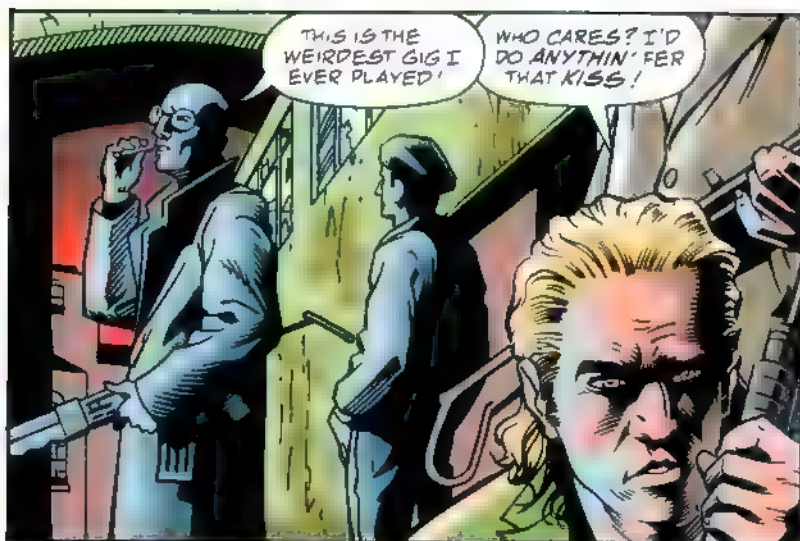
HE FEELS
TERRIBLE, LIKE
DEATH WARMED-
OVER--



AND THAT'S
EXACTLY WHAT
HE IS.



THE
PLANT
FACTORY

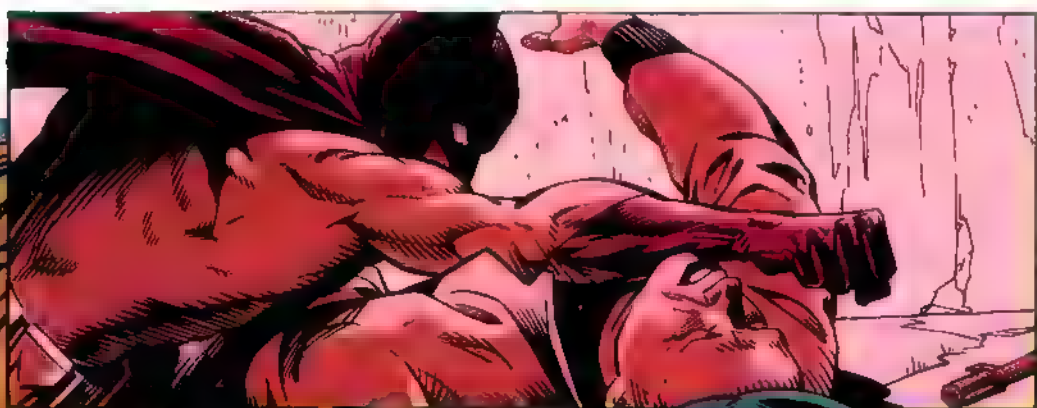


THE HEAVY WINDOW CLEANER'S CRADLE TAKES OUT THREE NOW, IF HE CAN JUST HOLD BACK THE PAIN AND NAUSEA FOR LONG ENOUGH--

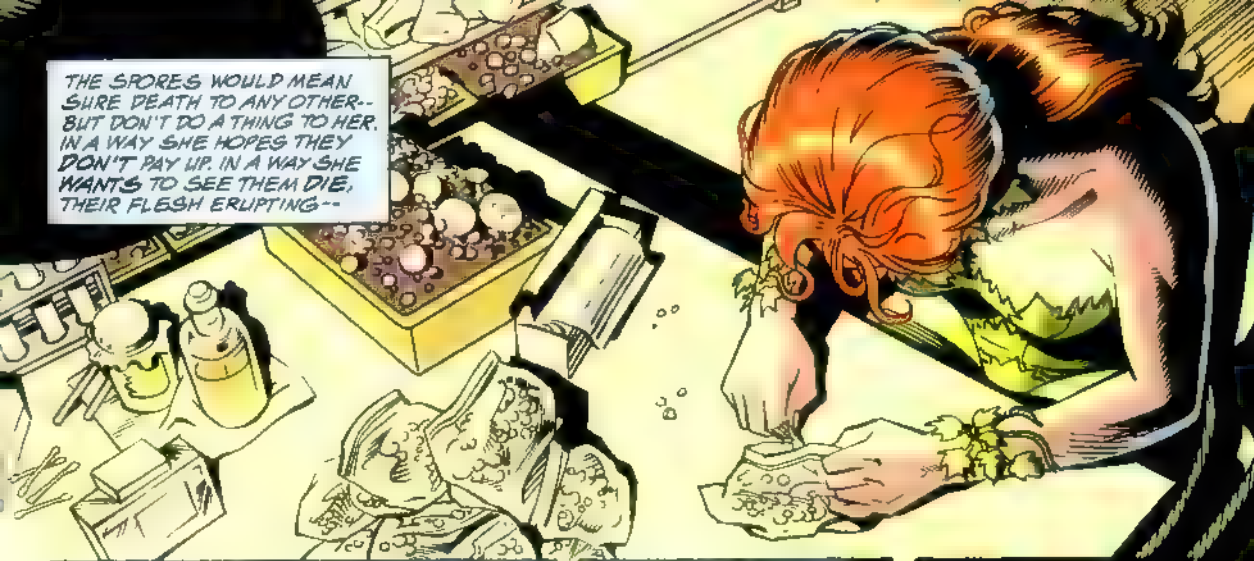


ONE STILL STANDING! HE
KNEW HE WAS THERE-- HIS
REACTIONS WERE JUST
TOO SLOW TO AVOID HIM--

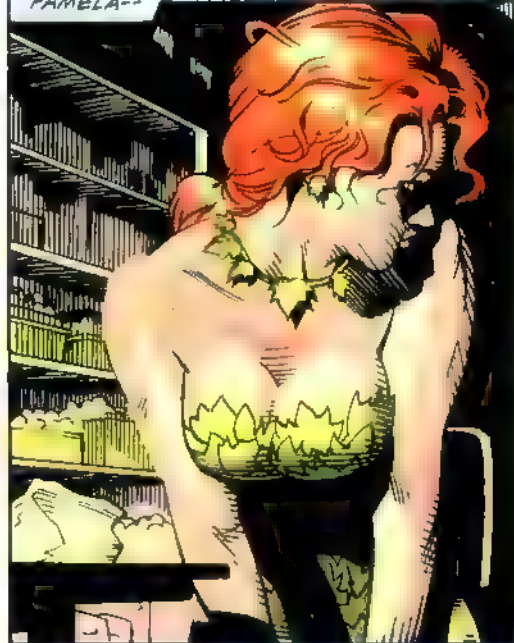




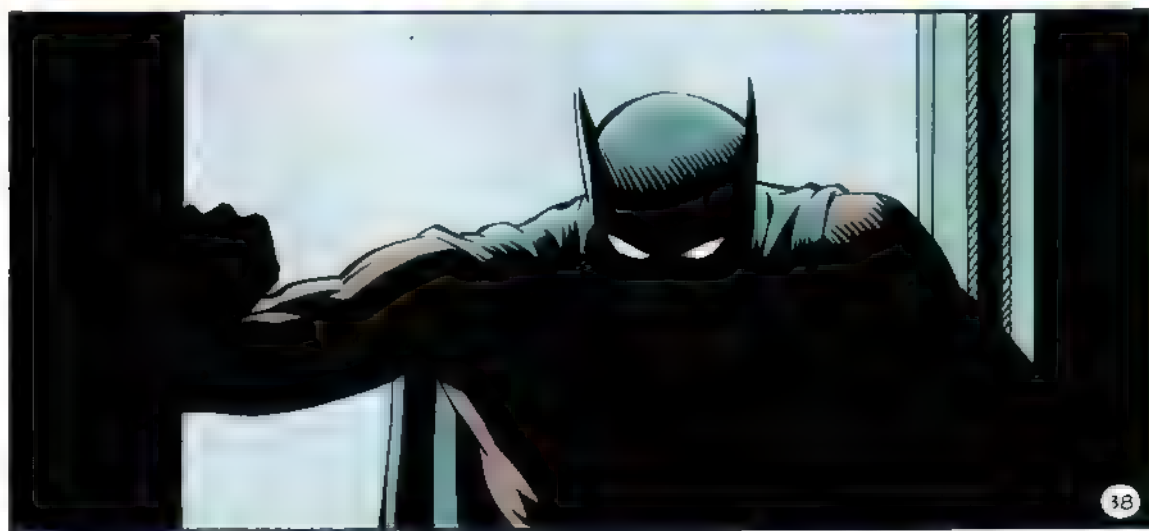
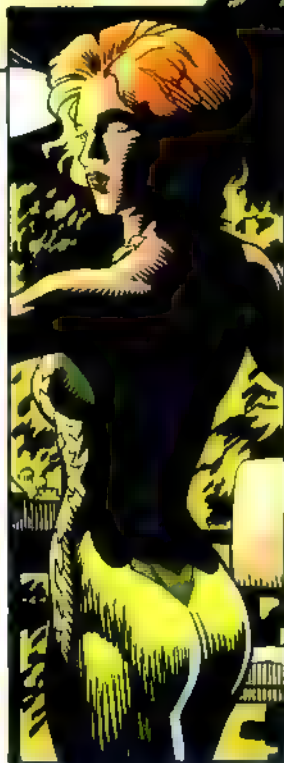
THE SPORES WOULD MEAN
SURE DEATH TO ANY OTHER--
BUT DON'T DO A THING TO HER.
IN A WAY SHE HOPES THEY
DON'T PAY UP, IN A WAY SHE
WANTS TO SEE THEM DIE,
THEIR FLESH ERUPTING--



NO, SHE DOESN'T MEAN THAT! SHE'S A
NICE GIRL. ISN'T SHE? WHAT WAS IT
PROFESSOR WOODRUE USED TO SAY?
"YOU'RE A MASS OF CONTRADICTIONS."
PAMELA--



"A PECULIARLY
DEADLY MASS
OF CONTRADICTIONS!"





KEEP BACK,
BATMAN!

GIVE IT UP
'VY YOU'RE
SICK YOU
NEED HELP



I AM WHAT I
AM-- WHAT LYING
MEN MADE ME!

I'M A FREAK WITH
POISON INSTEAD OF
BLOOD! I OWE NOBODY
A THING-- AND WHAT
I WANT, I GET.

WHATEVER EVIL
HAS BEEN DONE TO YOU
S NO REASON FOR
YOU TO TAKE TOLT
ON 'ACCENTS



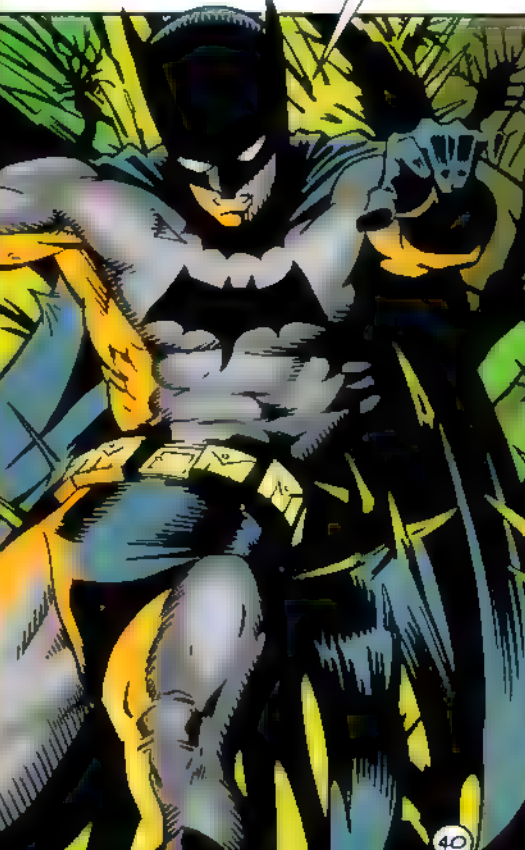
I
WARNED
YOU--!



THE PHOSPHOR FLARE
IS A NEW ADDITION TO
HIS GROWING UTILITY
BELT. GOOD THING IT
WORKS BETTER THAN
THE TRACER--



YOU SAID JUST LIKE
ALL MEN-- LYING,
CHEATING, CONNIVING!



AHH!



THE ANTIDOTE--
FOR BRUCE
WAYNE! I WANT
IT...!

NEVER!

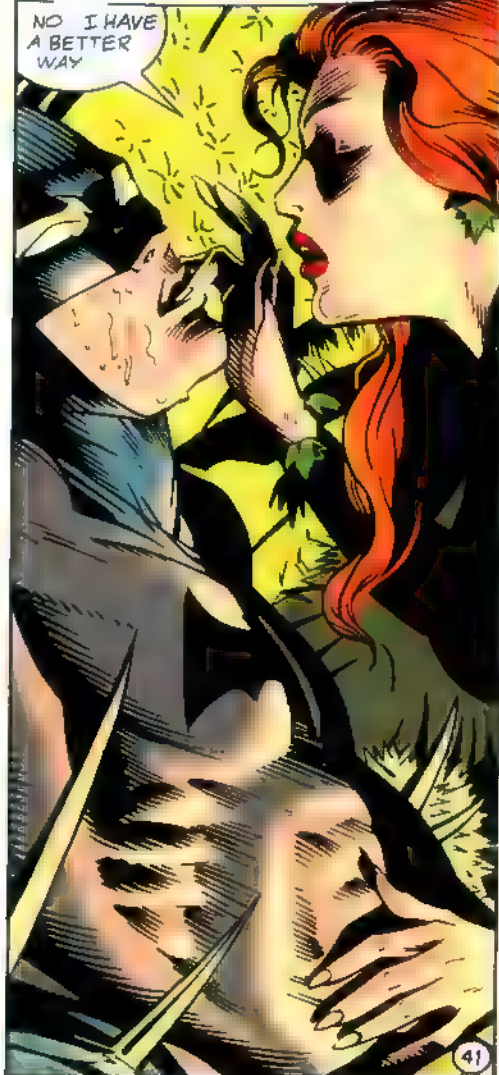
YOU'VE OFFENDED
ME, BATMAN. I HAD
HIGH HOPES FOR YOU
AND ME--AND WHAT
DO YOU DO? YOU BURN
MY PLANTS!

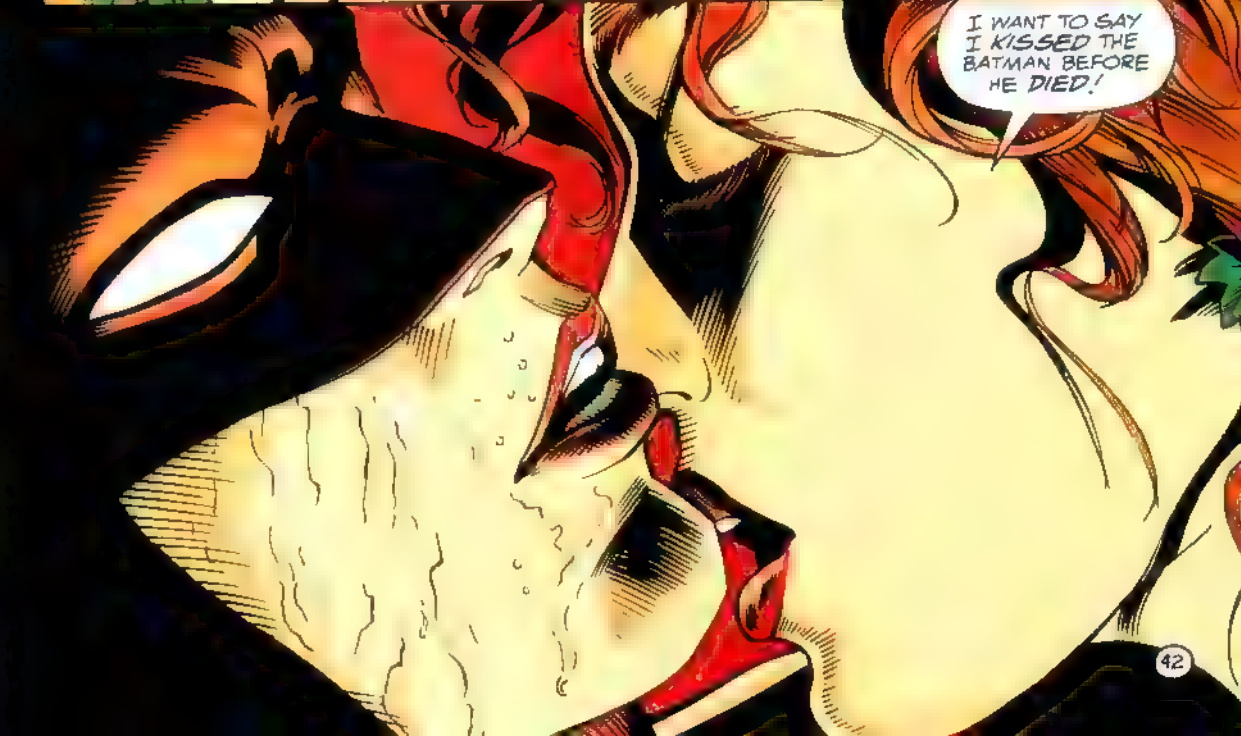
PLANTS ARE VERY SENSITIVE,
YOU KNOW. CALL ONE AND T'LL
RESPOND TO YOU. PRICK ONE
AND IT HURTS. IF YOU LISTEN
HARD, YOU CAN EVEN HEAR
THEM SCREAM.

SO HOW WILL WE
TAKE OUR REVENGE,
ME AND MY LITTLE
GREEN FRIENDS?

SCALD YOU ALL OVER WITH RUE SAP?
DRIVE YOU CRAZY WITH WORMWOOD
EXTRACT? SCRAPE AWAY YOUR SKIN
WITH IRONWOOD BARK?

NO. I HAVE
A BETTER
WAY.







THERE--THE SAME
POISON I GAVE
BRUCE WAYNE. YOU'LL
DIE WITHIN THE
HOUR!

AND AS FOR THE
ANTIDOTE--
NEITHER OF YOU
SHALL EVER
HAVE IT--



A SECOND
KISS FROM
THESE LIPS!

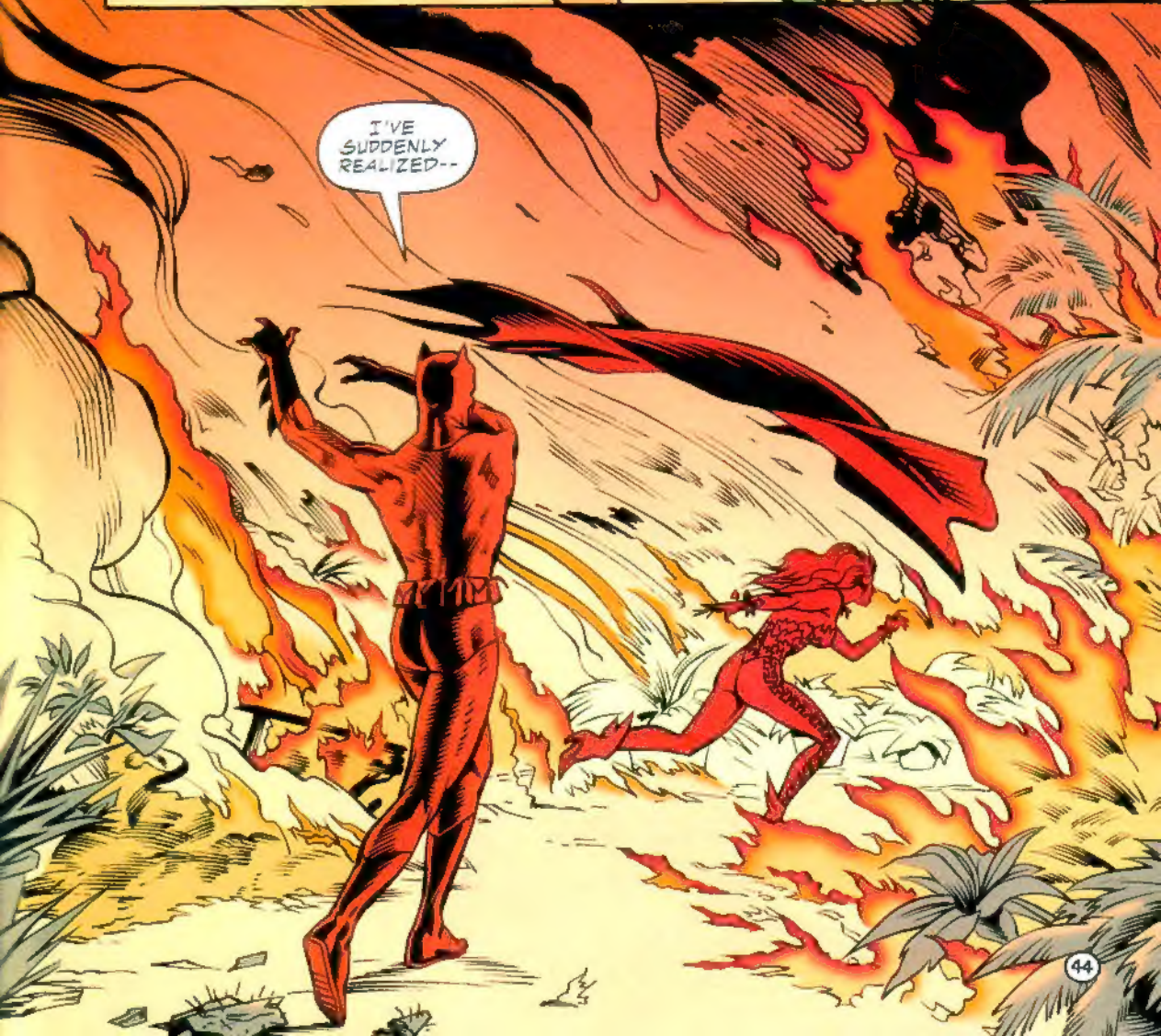




DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? YOU'RE GOING TO DIE! WHY ARE YOU LAUGHING?



BECAUSE, MY DEAR MISS IVY--



I'VE SUDDENLY REALIZED--



I AM
COMPLETELY
IMMUNE
TO YOUR
CHARMS!

NOBODY REJECTS ME!

ONE DAY, YOU'LL WORSHIP
THE VERY GROUND I
WALK ON!

WON'T HE, LITTLE FRIEND?
WON'T HE JUST ADORE ME
AND PAMPER ME AND
SHOWER ME WITH EVERY-
THING I WANT?

OF COURSE
HE WILL!

HE'S ONLY
A MAN,
ISN'T HE?

WHEN
POISON IVY
GETS YOU, THE
ITCH LASTS
FOREVER!

ARKHAM ASYLUM

END